



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

### Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

### About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES



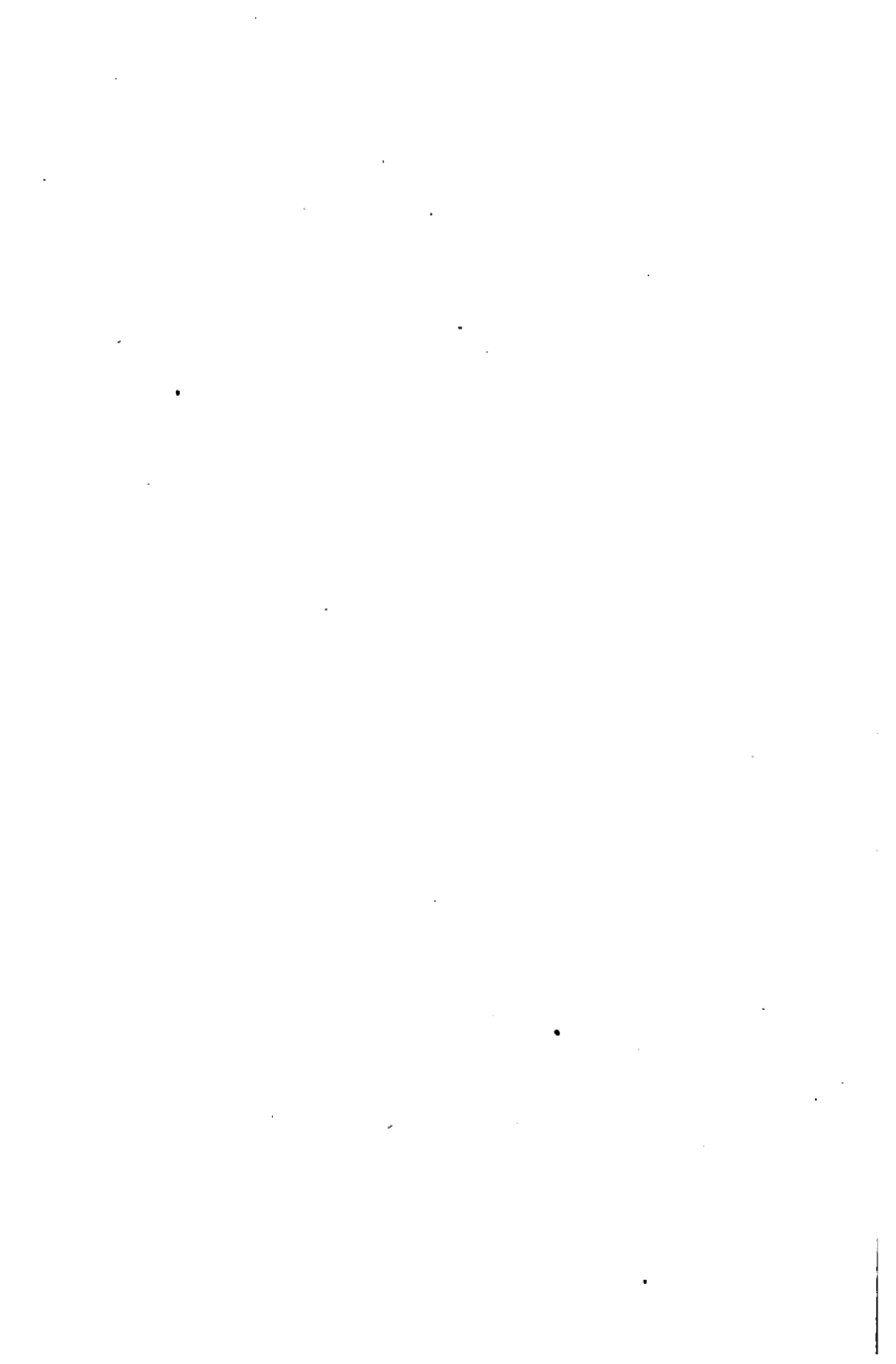
3 3433 07588604 8



(Manchester)

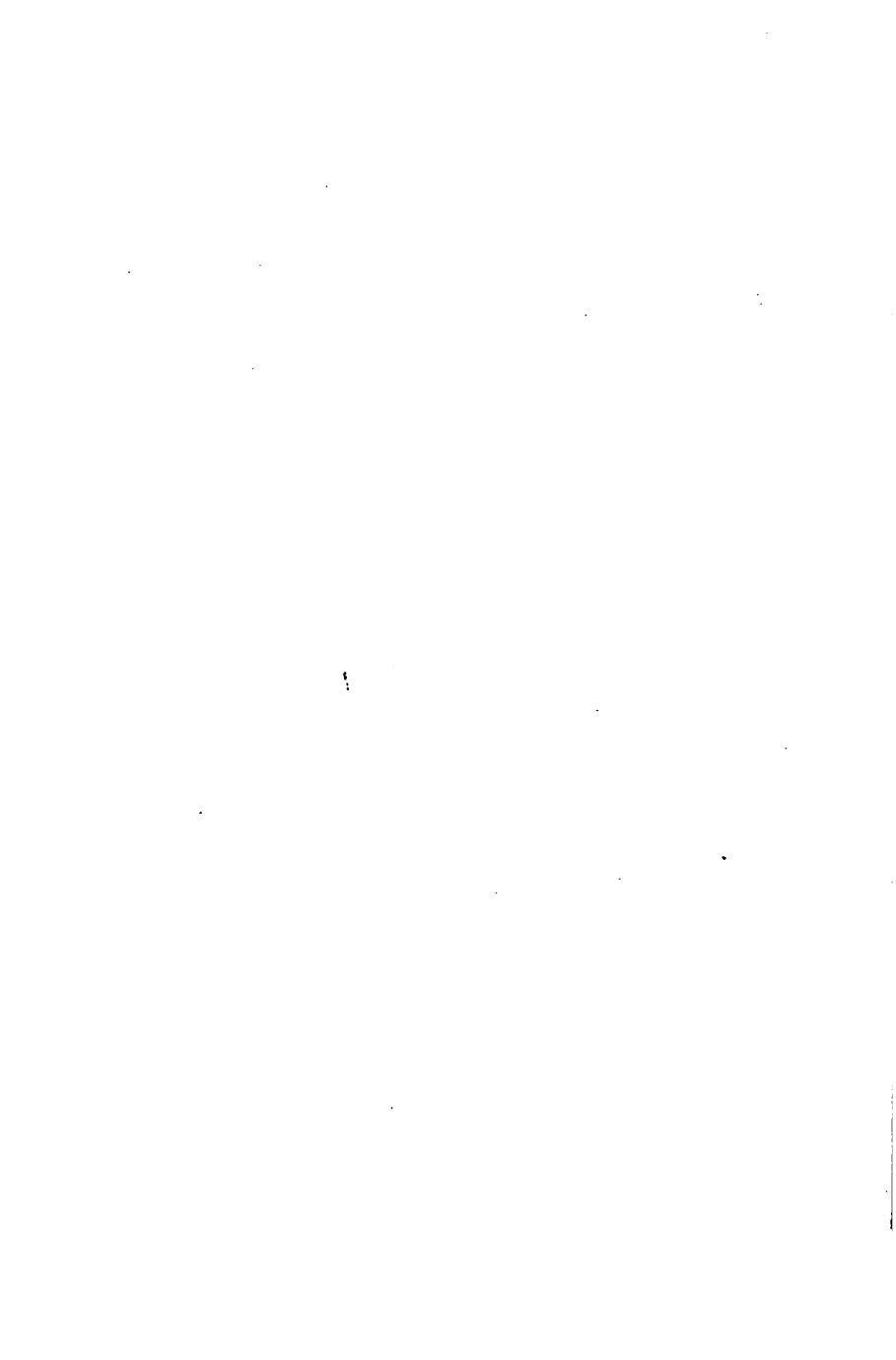
Swindells

CC



**MANCHESTER STREETS AND  
MANCHESTER MEN.**









CHETHAM COLLEGE.

# MANCHESTER STREETS

AND

# MANCHESTER MEN

FOURTH SERIES

By T. SWINDELLS

*WITH TEN ILLUSTRATIONS.*

1908 ,  
J. E. CORNISH, LTD.,  
16, ST. ANN'S SQUARE,  
MANCHESTER.

NEW YORK  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

TO NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
**153370A**  
ASTOR, LENOX AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS  
R 1924 L

NEW YORK  
JUN 1924  
153370A

## PREFACE.

IN the present volume the work carried out in the previous ones is continued on the same lines as before. Long Millgate is so full of interesting spots that one is tempted to linger over them, and to say more about them. The Chetham Hospital, the Grammar School, and the Poets' Corner provide ample materials for the writing of a goodly volume on each. In an undertaking such as the present that is quite out of the question, and one is compelled to exclude many things that one would like to have said. The same remark is applicable to Manchester's ancient racecourse, and Strangeways' Park and Hall. At the same time enough has been written to give the reader some idea of the history of the institutions mentioned. I had hoped to include Withy Grove and Shudehill in the list of streets dealt with in the present volume, but found it to be quite impracticable.

My thanks are due to Mr. Ellis for the valuable assistance he has again given me in the matter of illustrations.

I must also thank those who assisted me in the publication of the volume by promising to subscribe for copies. There are so many books printed to-day for which there is no real demand, that I am unwilling

to add to the number of such books. Consequently I shall in the future be guided in the matter of publication by the condition of my list of subscribers. I shall commence the writing of the next volume at once, but it will not be ready until the autumn. The thoroughfares dealt with in it will include Corporation Street, Cheetham Hill Road, Withy Grove, Shudehill and Rochdale Road.

T. SWINDELLS.

MONTON GREEN,

*May, 1908.*

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS. HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS. PART I. . . . .	1
THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS. HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS. PART II. . . . .	6
THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS. HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS. PART III. . . . .	11
OLD MILLGATE. PART I. . . . .	16
OLD MILLGATE. PART II. . . . .	20
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART I. . . . .	25
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART II. CHETHAM'S HOSPITAL . . . . .	30
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART III. THE GRAM- MAR SCHOOL . . . . .	40
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART IV. THE LORD'S BAKEHOUSE AND LANGLEY HALL . . . . .	49
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART V. SOME NOTABLE RESIDENTS . . . . .	55
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART VI. SAM. BAMFORD AND JOHN CRITCHLEY PRINCE . . . . .	65
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART VII. THE POETS' CORNER . . . . .	73
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART VIII. FURTHER LITERARY ASSOCIATIONS . . . . .	80
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART IX. TOAD LANE . . . . .	87
THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART X. MILLER'S LANE . . . . .	93

THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE. PART XI. A FEW PAGE.	
LANDMARKS .. .. .	102
SCOTLAND AND RED BANK .. .. .	107
BALLOON STREET. A GREAT COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING	111
CHARTER STREET RAGGED SCHOOL .. .. .	116
HALLIWELL STREET. THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUES ..	124
HUNT'S BANK .. .. .	129
HUNT'S BANK PRISON .. .. .	134
THE RIVER IRK .. .. .	139
WALKER'S CROFT .. .. .	146
NEW BRIDGE STREET .. .. .	152
STRANGWAYS PARK .. .. .	161
STRANGWAYS. PART II. THE ASSIZE COURTS..	169
CHEETWOOD .. .. .	174
FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL. PART I. ..	179
FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL. PART II. KNOLLS HOUSE .. .. .	184
FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL. PART III. THREE PLEASURE RESORTS .. .. .	189
FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL. PART IV. THE OWNERS OF CASTLE IRWELL .. .. .	195
KERSAL MOOR RACES. PART I. .. .. .	199
KERSAL MOOR RACES. PART II. SOME REMINISCENCES	205
KERSAL MOOR. A FEW LOOSE STRINGS .. .. .	212

## ILLUSTRATIONS.

CHETHAM COLLEGE .. .. .	<i>Facing</i>	<i>Title</i>
GRAMMAR SCHOOL MILLS AND OLD FOOT BRIDGE	„	26
CHETHAM COLLEGE—FOX COURT .. .. .	„	31
FIRST MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL .. .. .	„	41
OLD BUILDINGS IN LONG MILLGATE .. .. .	„	54
MANCHESTER ARMS HOTEL .. .. .	„	56
THE SUN INN, LONG MILLGATE .. .. .	„	72
HUNT'S BANK, SHOWING THE PRISON .. .. .	„	134
STRANGWAYS HALL.. .. .	„	162
KNOLLS HOUSE .. .. .	„	185



## THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS.

### PART I.

#### HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS.

LELAND (1538).

In a work like the present one it is of interest not only to trace the gradual growth of our city, but to know what opinions were held concerning it by visitors who passed through it in early days, and placed their impressions upon record. In this and the following chapters I shall quote some of those impressions, giving them in chronological order.

The first traveller to demand our notice is John Leland, who was Librarian to Henry VIII., and who as such was commissioned by the king to search for records, manuscripts and relics of antiquity in all the cathedrals, colleges, abbeys, and priories in England. The tour occupied six years, and in due course he entered Lancashire from Cheshire, visiting Manchester in 1538. The following quotation from his Itinerary is interesting. The spelling has been modernised with the exception of some of the place names, which are printed as they appear in the original.

"A three mile off I rode over Mersey Water by a great bridge of timber, called Crosford Bridge. This Water of Mersey to the very main sea departs



Cheshreshire and Lancastreshire. So about a three miles to Manchester, in the which way I left Sir Alexandre Radcliffe's Park and House on the right hand. But ere I saw that I passed over Corne Brooke, and after I touched within a good mile of Manchester by Mr. Traiford's Park and Place. And after, on the left hand, I saw Mr. Prestwicke's Place on the left hand over Irwel, whereby the Lord of Darby has a place, and a park called Allparte Park. Here about I passed over Medlock River, and so within less than a mile to Manchester.

Manchester (Mancestre) on the south side of Irwel River stands in Salfordshiret, and is the fairest, best built, quickest, and most populous town in all Lancastreshire, yet is in it but one parish church; but is a college and at most throughout double laid ex quadrats lapide durissime, whereof a goodly quarry is held by the town. There be divers stone bridges in the town, but the best of three arches is over Irwel. This bridge divides Manchester from Salford, the which is a large suburb of Manchester. On the bridge is a pretty little chapel. The next is the bridge that is over Thirke River, on the which the fair built college stands as in the very point of the mouth of it. For hard thereby it runs into Irwel. On Thirke River be divers fair mills that serve the town. In the town be two fair market places; and almost two fleet shots without the town, beneath on the same side of Irwel yet be seen the dikes and foundations of Old Man Castel in a ground now enclosed. The stones of the ruins of the castle were translated towards making of bridges for the town. It is not long season since

the Church of Manchester was collegiated. The town of Manchester stands on a hard rock of stone. Irwel is not navigable, but in some places, for vady's and rocks."

From this we get some idea of what the town was nearly four centuries ago ; and come to the conclusion that small as it might appear to modern eyes, it was in those far away days a place of some importance. Sir Alexandre Radcliffe's Park and House was Ordsall Park and Hall. Mr. Prestwick's Place was Hulme Hall ; and Alport Lodge stood near Deansgate, giving the name to Alport Town, now swept away by railway extensions. In Leland's day the ruins of the Roman encampment seem to have been somewhat extensive, sufficiently so to have enabled a ground plan to have been prepared, and it is unfortunate that it was not done. He notes, however, how the buildings had been destroyed. His account of what he saw, brief though it is, is undoubtedly interesting, and proves that before the time of Queen Elizabeth the town ranked high amongst the more populous areas in the north of England.

CAMBDEN (1582).

The next writer who may be quoted is William Camden, who spent many years travelling through all parts of the country and collecting materials for his *Britannia*, which was published in Latin in 1586, and after translation by Dr. P. Holland, in English in 1610. His description of the town is more complete than the one by Leland. He says :—

"Where Irke and Irwell meet together on the left hand bank raised of a reddish kind of stone, scarce

three miles from Mersey, flourished that town of right great antiquity which we now call Manchester. and Antonine the Emperor called Mancunium. This retaining the first part of its ancient name, far excelleth the towns lying round about it, for the beautiful shew it carries, for resort unto it, and for clothing ; in regard also of the mercate place, the fair church and college. But in the foregoing age, this town was of far greater account, both for certain woollen clothes there wrought, and in great request, commonly called Manchester Cottons, and also for the liberty of a sanctuary, which under King Henry VIII. was by parliamentary authority translated to Chester. In the park of the Earl of Derbies near adjoining, called Alparke, where the brook Medlocke enters into Irwell, I saw a plot and ground work of an ancient fortress built four square, commonly called Mancastle ; which I will not in any wise say was that ancient Mancunium, but it is contained in so narrow a piece of ground, but rather the fort of Mancunium ; and station of the Romans where they kept watch and ward. Upon a stony hill Manchester is seated and beneath the very town at Collyhurst, there are good and famous quarries of stone."

It is doubtful whether many of the citizens of to-day realise that the town was originally founded on the rocky bank of the river, and that three centuries ago from the old Salford Bridge it appeared to be built on the side of a hill. This explains how the names Hanging Bridge and Hanging Ditch came into usage, for from the river bank the stream would be seen coming down the hill side, and the bridge over it would be seen part way up the hillside. The name Hanging

is therefore easily traceable to the Anglo Saxon word "hangen" which meant to hang down or to suspend.

It is undoubtedly curious that whereas in the days of long ago Manchester woollen goods were known as "Manchester Cottons," in our time Manchester cottons are known the wide world over. From what Cambden says it is very evident that the Roman remains that survived in 1582 were considerably smaller in extent than they were in Leland's day. The mention of the quarries of Collyhurst serves to remind us of the source of the stone used for building purposes in Manchester from very early times.



## THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS.

### PART II.

#### HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS.

##### COTTONS AND FUSTIANS (1613).

Cambden's reference to Manchester cottons has been dealt with, but a mention of them made by another writer in 1613 should not be passed over. In that year John May published a pamphlet with the lengthy title of *A Declaration of the Estate of Clothing now used within this Realm of England, with an apologie for the Alneger, showing the necessarie use of his office*, written by John May, a deputy Alneger, London. Printed by Adam Islip, 1613." Amongst other matters it deals with the manufactures of our town, and in addition to Manchester cottons, makes mention of fustians. The quotation reads :—

"A sort of cloth is made called Manchester or Lancashire plaines, to make cottons, which contain about a yard in breadth. These are often bought by merchants and others, which cut them in length according to a kersie, and hath them dressed and dyed in form to a kersie, the which are not only vended into foreign parts, but many of them vended in the realm, which cloth proves very unprofitable in weaving. Besides there is a greedy desire in some merchants, who cause the clothier to make their cloth of extraordinary length,

that is to say the substance and length of a cloth and a half in one cloth ; and if they cannot get them thus, then they will cut cloths, and draw three cloths into two so cunningly as can hardly be found. This is done to deceive the King of his customs and other duties.

“ There is also a late commodity in great use of making within this kingdom, which setteth many people on work, called fustians, which for want of government are so decayed by falsehood, keeping neither order in goodness or assise, in so much that the makers thereof, in this short time of use, are weary of their trades, and it is thought will return again to the place from whence it came, who does still observe their sorts and goodness in such true manner, as by their secles they are sold, keeping up the credit of that which they made. What a shame is it to our nation, to be so void of reason and government that a good trade should be suppressed for want of good order amongst themselves and has so good a precedent from others. These many enormities are now in the height of practice, and the evil disposed having no feeling thereof, but run forward to the ruin of all ; but to the well-disposed, which looks into these abuses, it appears lamentable and grievous, desiring that a better portion may be procured for those offenders to purge so vile and dangerous a disease, which may in a short time grow incurable.”

The trade in Manchester cottons had not only secured a good footing in the country, but the continuity of the prosperity was such as to induce unscrupulous traders to resort to deception in order to secure a wider sale for their goods.

The trade of Manchester was also referred to by another writer, Lewis Roberts, a merchant and captain of the City of London, who in 1641 issued a small pamphlet bearing the title of *The Treasure of Trafficke, or a Discourse of Forraigne Trade*. Roberts' reference is only short, but it furnishes a few additional proofs of the enterprise shown by the Manchester traders of two hundred and sixty years ago. The paragraph says :—

“The town of Manchester in Lancashire must be remembered, and worthily for their encouragement commended, who buy the yarn of the Irish in great quantity, and weaving it, return the same again in linen into Ireland to sell. Neither doth the industry rest here, for they buy cotton wool in London that comes first from Cyprus and Smyrna, and at home work the same and perfect it in fustians, vermillions, dymities and such other stuffs, and then return it to London, where the same is vented and sold, and not seldom sent into forraine parts who have means, at far easier terms, to provide themselves of the said first materials.”

Leaving these commercial references out attention is next drawn to the diary of Cecilia Fiennis, who travelled through many parts of the country in the closing years of the seventeenth century. The diary was published in 1888 under the title of *Through England on a Side Saddle in the time of William and Mary*, and in its pages the volume gives us many interesting side lights upon the state of the country two centuries ago, and upon the social condition of the people.

After describing her approach to Manchester from Rochdale she says: "Manchester looks exceedingly well at the entrance. Very substantial buildings; the houses are not very lofty, but mostly of brick and stone. The old houses are timber work. There is a very large church, all stone and stands high, so that walking round the churchyard you see the whole town. There is good carving in wood in the quire of the church, and several little chapels, wherein are some little monuments. There is one that was the founder of the College and Library, where hangs his pictures, for just by the church is the college, which is a pretty neat building with a large space for the boys to play in, and a good garden walled in. There are sixty blue-coat boys in it. I saw their apartments and was in the cellars and drank of their beer which was very good. I also saw the kitchen and saw their bread cutting for their supper and piggins for their beer. There is a cloister round a court; in it is a large room for the judges to sit in, and also for the rooms for hearing and dispatching their business. There is a large library—two long walls full of books on one side. There is also the globes at the end, and maps. There is also a long whispering trumpet, and there I saw the skin of the rattle-snake, six feet long, with many other curiosities; the anatomy of a man wired together, a jaw of a shark. There was a very nice clock and weather glass. Out of the library are leads on which one has the sight of the town, which is large; as also the other town that lies below is called Salfor, and which is divided from this by the River Onall, over which is a stone bridge with many arches. Salfor has only a little chapel of ease and is belonging



to the parish of Manchester. There is also the river called the Shark (Irk), which runs into the Uval (Irwell). The market place is large ; it takes up two streets length where the market is kept for their linen-cloth cotton-tickings, which is the manufacture of the town. Here is a very fine school for young gentlemen, as good as any in London, and music and dancing and things are very plenty here. This is a thriving place."

Miss Fiennes tells her story in quaint style, but although the orthography may not be up to the standard of modern ideas, we are pleased to have her assurance that although the whole extent of the town could be viewed from the churchyard and the leads of the college, Manchester was a thriving place when William and Mary were on the throne.



## THE MANCHESTER OF OLDEN DAYS.

### PART III.

#### HOW IT APPEARED TO STRANGERS.

WILLIAM STUKELEY.

In previous chapters we have seen the opinions respecting the town, expressed by visitors in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In the present chapter I shall quote from the writings of two chroniclers who visited it in the first half of the eighteenth centuries.

The first of these will be William Stukeley, a physician and antiquary who, in company with Roger Gale, travelled through the northern and western parts of England in 1725, and who afterwards published his observations in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*.

"I look upon Manchester to be no ancient town, and even the Hundred is denominated from Salford, the village on the other side of the bridge, therefore older ; but Manchester is a much better situation, as higher ; placed too, between two rivers, having rocky and precipitous banks, with a good prospect. It is a very pleasant, large, populous and thriving town, new buildings added every day ; the roads are mending about it and the river is making navigable, which will still contribute to its prosperity. The old church is very spacious and handsome, and enlarged still with

numbers of large chapels and oratories, but the monuments, which were many, are destroyed and obliterated. A priest of the name of Huntingdon lies before the altar. It is a collegiate church, and the stalls in the choir are of very good carved work in the old manner. The country is very woody, and affords a fine prospect everywhere, bounded by high and distant hills. A conflux of many roads at this place gave origin to the town. Salford is a large town; a broad and very straight street leading to Warrington, probably Roman; a very good bridge over the river. They call the castle the Giant's Castle. Probably there was a town at the River Medloc in Roman times, and an annual fair is still kept there. The castle stands parallel to the road. The river Irk comes in here under the college walls; the castle walls were pulled up to mend and build the churches and bridges. I find the Roman road went across the churchyard originally, and so by the common street to the bridge over the Irk, called Scotland Bridge; then it ascends the hill and proceeds with its original direction N.E. to Rochdale. Edward the elder, by our monkish authors, is said to have built a castle here, which probably was by the church and college, and the church may be founded on its ruins. This drew the town that way; the meeting of the two rivers here, and the steep rocks upon them rendered it a convenient situation for such a work."

The Old Quay Company who made the river navigable between Manchester and Liverpool, was formed in 1720, and their undertaking would therefore be in its infancy when Stukeley visited the town four years

later. The chapels referred to in connection with the collegiate church, originally ran along the entire length of the north and south side. In later times many of them were added to the main building by the removal of the division walls, thereby giving to the building the unusual width that is one of its features.

It is now known that not only did the Romans have a settlement on the site of the Chetham college, but that a native camp was situated there prior to their appearance. For information concerning Roman Manchester the reader is referred to Mr. Roeder's exhaustive work on the subject.

The last visitor whose opinion may be noted in this connection is James Ray, who acted as a volunteer under the Duke of Cumberland, and who published in 1746 *A Compleat History of the Rebellion, from its rise, 1745, to its total suppression*. As a soldier he passed through Manchester, and in his pages we have a very good account of the town as he saw it. It will be seen that he deals more in detail with the trade of the town than any of the writers previously quoted.

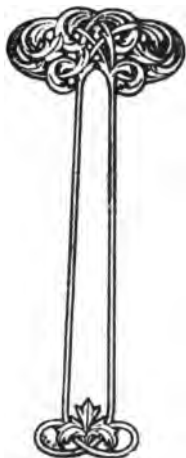
"Manchester is situated on the banks of the river Irwell, over which is a stately stone bridge, going into Salford, which village is only separated from Manchester by this river, as the City of London from Southwark by the Thames. Though this is no city, corporation, nor so much as a town, strictly speaking, the highest magistrate being a constable or headborough, yet it may be styled the greatest mere village in England, and is more populous than York or most cities in this kingdom. The people here, including Salford, are computed to be no less than 50,000. As

this town is very populous, so the inhabitants are very industrlous, driving an extraordinary trade in fustian manufacture, and that called Manchester cottons for women's wear, which it has been famous for above 100 years, has been very much improved of late by some inventions of dyeing and printing, which by the great variety of other manufactures known by the name of Manchester goods, as tickings, linens, checks, hats, and all kinds of what they call smallwares, as thread, tapes, filleting, qualities which enrich the town and render the people industrious, resembling those of Holland, the children here being all employed, and earn their bread. They export vast quantities of their goods abroad, as to the West Indies, etc. As an inland town it has the best trade of any in these north parts.

"As the inhabitants become more numerous, in proportion to the increase of their trade, a new parish is erected, and a new church built in it, dedicated to St. Anne, and the town is very much improved by the building of a very handsome street of stately houses, at the end of which the said church is erected. Near this church is the Presbyterian meeting house, which was pulled down by the Jacobite mob in 1715, but was quickly rebuilt, and is now a very stately structure, not inferior to any in London. The town has a spacious market place and a modern exchange, with many other elegant and magnificent buildings. There is likewise a small Baptist meeting house, and a Jacobite non-juring chapel. I don't know of what body the congregation consists, they not allowing any to come amongst them but such as are of their own

sort, who (like the more worshipful society of Freemasons) are under an oath not to divulge what is transacted there, except it be to a just and lawful Jacobite, as he or they shall appear to be upon examination."

With this quotation we may leave this branch of our subject, and continue our history of the streets of the city.



## OLD MILLGATE.

### PART I.

#### THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

The street named Millgate is one of the few in the city that can truthfully be classed as ancient. It takes us back to the very early days, probably not very long after the opening of the twelfth century, when in consequence of the gradual extension of the town, which resulted from the more settled state of things that followed the Norman Conquest, buildings were being erected on the Old Millgate side of the Hanging Ditch. In the more unsettled times that immediately followed the settlement of the Norman baron on the site now occupied by the Chetham College, the buildings were confined to the area surrounded by water, and access to which was by means of a drawbridge over the stream that in those days ran from the higher lands of Shudehill into the river.

As the community extended its borders, the first direction in which that extension took place would be in the immediate vicinity of the bridge. This would also account for the Lord of the Manor allotting the land known as the market place for the purposes of trade. In the market place were placed the meeting room of the court leet, the cross, the stocks, and the pillory. Standing close by the entrance to the market

place was built the meal house, a most important institution in those early days.

At the opposite end of Old Millgate was the mill standing on the banks of the Hanging Ditch. The mill belonged to the Lord of the Manor, who had the sole right to grind the corn required for the community. The street known as Old Millgate therefore formed the direct way of approach to the meal house and the Lord's mill. The word Millgate is a compound word, the latter portion, "gate," is derived from the Anglo Saxon for way or road. Some writers have, therefore, suggested that the name originally was "Mealgate," denoting the way to the meal house. It is much more likely that it was associated with the mill, and denoted the way to the mill. This is borne out by the fact of a second Millgate coming into existence. This would arise when, as the community increased in size and the demands for flour and meal increased, the mill on the ditch became inadequate for the requirements of the population. Consequently, the Lord of the Manor erected on the banks of the Irk more extensive mills, and as the distance to them was greater than the way to the old mill, the road to them became known as Long Millgate, the older thoroughfare becoming known as Old Millgate. In the map of the town as it was in 1650 both names appear.

#### THE CORRUPT USE OF OLD NAMES.

It has been pointed out that the word "gate" originally meant "way," and a few examples may be quoted in support of this in addition to the name



Millgate. In Stockport we have Churchgate, which leads to the parish church : Hillgate, the way to the higher land, formerly outside the town ; and Chester-gate, the way to Chester, the county town. There are quite a number of other instances which might be quoted, one of which is the name Doctor's Gate, the name applied to a path leading from the road between Glossop and the Snake Inn. The term " gate " is now applied to the obstruction placed across a path or road instead of to the road itself. The explanation is not far to seek. In the days of the walled cities the closing of the movable obstruction placed across the road or gate, meant the prevention of traffic into and out of the town ; and in this way the term " closing the gate " came gradually to be misapplied, and the name gate was transferred from the road to the obstruction across it.

#### WHEN MANCHESTER WAS BESEIGED.

In 1642 the more acute stage of the struggle between Charles I. and his parliament commenced, and Manchester was one of the first places to witness a trial of strength between the forces representing the opposing sides. The attacking Royalist forces approached in two sections, one along Deansgate to Alport led by Sir Thomas Tyldesley, and the other through Salford to Salford Bridge, led by Lord Strange. The town forces were commanded by Colonel Rosworm, who defended Salford Bridge. Captain Bradshaw defended the entrance to the town at Deansgate, and Captain Booth, who commanded a force consisting of the Dunham Yeomanry, along with his men, was stationed

in the Millgate. There they were in reserve, prepared to move to the support of any of their comrades who might be unduly pressed. The siege extended over a week, at the end of which time Lord Strange, who by the death of his father in the meantime, had become Lord Derby, raised the siege, leaving Manchester in the possession of the Parliamentarians.

We are not told as to the extent of the street alterations carried out in connection with the Improvement Act of 1775, but we have presented to us an account of the street as it appeared on market day prior to the carrying out of the scheme referred to. A native of the town in 1783 said: "The Old Millgate, some years since, was only accounted a road on sufferance; but it was so crowded with carriages (and other vehicles) on a market day that it was dangerous to pass them; and the Smithy Door, which was the proper road to Salford Bridge, being also wedged up with throngs meeting, like two opposite currents, there appeared to be a necessity of removing the market people, either wholly or in part, to some other situation."

The widening of the street would relieve the congestion of the traffic on market days, for it is supposed that prior to the alteration it was only of sufficient width to admit of the passage of one vehicle at a time. When we read of these matters we are driven to the conclusion that in spite of the opinions expressed in the earlier chapters of this volume, Manchester must have been a curiously arranged town in which quaint buildings overlooked streets that were only passages in width.

## OLD MILLGATE.

### PART II.

#### AN OLD TIME RESIDENT.

C. H. TIMPERLEY.

For a number of years Charles H. Timperley carried on business as a bookseller in Old Millgate. Although his commercial operations were only on a limited scale, he was an industrious worker in certain branches of literature. The story of his earlier life, was told in his *Dictionary of Printers and Printing*, published in 1839. He says: "I received the rudiments of my education at a day school in my native town, Manchester, and was afterwards removed to the Free Grammar School under the Rev. Thomas Gaskell. Early attached to reading, I have remained all my life an ardent enquirer after knowledge. From the month of March, 1810 (being then little more than fifteen years of age), to November 28th, 1815, my days were passed in the 33rd Regiment of Foot, from which I obtained my discharge (with a pension of one shilling a day) in consequence of wounds received at the battle of Waterloo. During those years I had few facilities of self-improvement. Having been apprenticed to an engraver and copperplate printer, I resumed the latter on returning from the army; but, from a distaste and other causes, in the year 1821, I adopted

the profession of a letterpress printer, under indenture with Messrs. Dicey and Smithson, proprietors of the Northampton Mercury. Adopting the profession of a printer with a view of affording me that literary information which I so ardently desired, I endeavoured to become acquainted with its history. From this desire arose the *Lectures*, at Warwick; the *Songs of the Press*, at Nottingham; and finally, the *Dictionary of Printers and Printing*, with the *Printer's Manual*, at Manchester."

So much for the author's brief autobiography. The demand for the two books mentioned was not very great, and in 1842 a London publisher secured the unsold copies, and binding them in one volume, issued them with a new title : *The Encyclopædia of Literary and Typographical Anecdote*. The book, which contains a vast amount of information is occasionally to be met with on second hand book stalls. Locally the interest in the work was eclipsed by that taken in a book that he published in 1839. This was the *Annals of Manchester : Biographical, Historical, Ecclesiastical and Commercial, from the earliest period to the close of the year 1839.*" With the exception of Edwin Butterworth's *Chronological Table of Events*, published in 1829, and again in 1833, this seems to have been the first serious attempt to give a chronological account of the rise of the town, and Timperley's modest volume has formed the basis of several more recent volumes. It is not necessary to give details of these issues except to say that several bear the title *The Manchester Historical Recorder*, and that the most recent was the one published by Mr. W. E. A. Axon in 1886.

After carrying on business in Old Millgate for some years, Timperley removed to London where he died in 1861.

Two other old time printers who have been associated with our thoroughfare were T. Anderton and John Prescott, to whom reference has been made in my third volume.

#### THE OLDEST BUSINESS IN THE STREET.

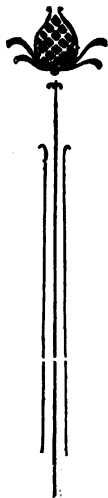
Few firms in Manchester can point to a record equal to that of Messrs. Smith, Hill & Co. The proprietors have evidence that for nearly 170 years the business has had an existence, and they are of opinion that its actual commencement dates back another thirty years. Certain it is that in Mrs. Raffald's directories for 1772 and 1773 we have the entry: "Smith, John, Warehouseman, Cannon Street." In 1788 the name William Smith appears, and his occupation is stated to be that of a "linen draper and dealer by commission." In Dean's directory for 1804 a double change was recorded, the style of the firm had become William Smith and Sons, and the address is given as 17 Old Millgate. In later years William and John Hill were admitted to partnership, the name becoming Smith, Hill & Co., as it remains to-day. As proving that the business in Cannon Street and that in Old Millgate are one and the same it is stated that communication between the two buildings was made by an underground passage.

#### AN UNDERGROUND ROOM.

The mention of the passage reminds us of an interesting specimen of such structures to which public

attention was called about four years ago. It was a cellar consisting of one room, formed by several small elliptical arches, each of which sprang from a column in the centre of the vault. The walls and arches were composed of bricks and the floor was flagged. The cellar was beneath the premises then occupied by Messrs. Ponter, art furniture dealers, and was the centre of much interest and the cause of much speculation. The care taken in its construction seemed to prove that it had not been built for ordinary domestic use but for some specific purpose. That it dated back many generations was equally certain, and it was generally conceded that it had been connected with some private house. The whole affair was shrouded in mystery. There were no windows in it, and thus it could only be illuminated by means of candles or lamps. A meeting could, therefore, be held without the fact being disclosed to neighbours or passers by. Considering these facts together with its location it was suggested that it had formed an early meeting place of the non-jurors as the Jacobites were called. These men, supporters of the claims of the Stuarts to the British crown, formed themselves into a church, and for a long time were compelled to meet for worship in private. A room such as the one referred to would meet the purposes of the Jacobites. The approach to the cellar would not be very far from the back premises of Dr. John Byrom's house at the bottom of Hunter's Lane. To Byrom's house there would probably be a piece of garden ground at the back, in connection with which there would be several out-buildings, from one of which the cellar might be

approached. This suggestion was the most probable amongst those made, and was the more likely to be the correct one because Dr. Byrom was a strong but very cautious supporter of the claims of the two pretenders. No documentary evidence was adduced in support of this or any other theory, and the whole thing was shrouded in mystery.



## THE STORY OF LONG MILLGATE.

### PART I.

Long Millgate is one of our oldest thoroughfares. It is probable that it was in existence as such before the Lord of the Manor erected on the banks of the river Irk the mills which gave it its name. It must have been of considerable importance to the little community in the days of Queen Elizabeth, for it served as the way of approach to the districts now known as Cheetham and Blackley. It had its origin in a country lane and to-day it bears in one respect a striking resemblance to the winding Cheshire lanes of to-day, familiar to the pedestrian. In the court leet records we find many references to the institutions connected with our thoroughfare, but as we shall deal with those in later chapters we will leave those references for the present. Two early connections should be noted. Thus in 1342 we find mention in an ancient document of Richard of the Mylnegate, and in 1596 we read that "William, sonne of Elize Ffarar" was "drowned at Mylne Brig."

### IN 1650.

Let us examine the plan representing Manchester and Salford as they were in 1650, in order to form some idea of what Long Millgate was like at the time when Cromwell was securing his last victory over the



Royalists at Dunbar, more than a year after the execution of Charles I.

Fringing both sides of the lane were houses extending from Fennel Street to Red Bank. We are not told what the houses were like, but judging from the specimens that survived to recent times, they would include a few of the better class dwelling house with a preponderance of cottages. Strange to say our plan represents the houses on the left hand side of the lane as being without gardens, whereas those on the opposite side were provided with them. Beyond the houses and gardens open fields extended on the one side to the river Irk, and on the other in the direction of Shude Hill.

Connected with Millgate were three bridges giving access over the river. The first of these was approached by a steep descent known as Mill Brow, which was a continuation of Toad Lane. There is still a bridge over the river at this spot, but the general surroundings have changed so tremendously that if one of the burgesses of those early days could revisit the glimpses of the moon he would fail to recognise in the fine railway approach of to-day the modern presentment of the narrow bridge with which he was familiar. Many of us remember how even in our time the approach to the station from that side was by means of a foot bridge which was reached by paths down the steep banks of the river. Mill Brow was so called because near to it stood the ancient fulling mill. Across the river was the field known as Walker's Croft, which along with the mill was used for bleaching purposes.

The second bridge does not appear to have been



GRAMMAR SCHOOL MILLS AND OLD BRIDGE LEADING FROM CORPORATION STREET TO VICTORIA STATION.



approached by a roadway, access being probably by means of a footpath through the fields. This bridge was known as Tanner's Bridge and close by stood the Grammar School Malt Mill. It is represented to-day by Ducie Bridge. The third bridge was known as Scotland Bridge. The corn mill stood a few yards away, Red Bank led down to the river on the further side of the bridge; and a little distance before the bridge was reached, Ashley Lane, fringed with hedges, led into the remoter country. Long Millgate was in those far-away days a desirable place for residence.

Before Casson and Berry issued their plan nearly a century later, great changes had come over this part of the town. The irregularly shaped piece of land bounded by Millgate, Toad Lane and Fennel Street was still occupied by houses on the outside edges with gardens in the centre, as was the case in 1650. The gardens were approached from Fennel Street by a wide passage. The land between the lane and the river was still unbuilt upon, but much of the field land on the opposite side of the river had apparently been converted into gardens or allotments. On the right hand side of Long Millgate a number of houses had been built in Ashley Lane and Millers Lane, and across the fields in Shude Hill many more had been erected. Manchester was growing, and gradually the appearance of Long Millgate and many other thoroughfares was changing.

IN 1793.

How great those changes were during the next half century can be told in a few words. The gardens standing

behind the Fennel Street area just named had disappeared before 1793 and in their stead were two narrow passages giving access to cottages built upon the site. Passing along Long Millgate on the right hand side we find that Halliwell Street, Howarth's Gates, Holdgate Street, Balloon Street and several others had been brought into existence and were already fairly well built up. The lower portions of Hanover Street and Miller Street were fringed with houses although the upper portions adjoined fields and gardens. Ashley Lane had not yet lost its rural appearance, and fields stretched behind the hedges that ran along both sides of it. Across a field at the corner of Angel Street stood St. Michael's Church, consecrated in 1789. Returning to Long Millgate we find that nearly the whole of the land lying between the street and the river had been covered with tenements, access to those on the back land being secured by means of narrow passages. Across the river more rural conditions still prevailed and the new Workhouse buildings and Strangeways Hall were surrounded by pasture and cornfields. The period of decadence, so far as our thoroughfare, had commenced. From being a pleasant country lane, studded at intervals by houses, but which was in several lengths overhung by trees, it had gradually changed until at length every available yard of land was being rapidly covered, in many cases, with houses consisting of small and badly lighted rooms, and in all cases crowded so closely together that living under healthy conditions was fast becoming impossible. In our time most of these buildings have disappeared owing to a variety of causes, the most important of which was the making

of the railway line and station, and the frequent alterations of both. The street has changed completely during the last thirty years, and if matters develop as much during the next generation, the old thoroughfare will have changed as completely as did Market Street eighty years ago, and nothing will remain to remind us of its former appearance save a few views of some of the bygone buildings that formerly stood there.



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART II.

#### CHETHAM'S HOSPITAL.

No building in our city can compare with Chetham's Hospital for the value of its reminiscences. As we pace its cloisters, or sit pondering in its glorious reading room, we seem to have passed out of the twentieth century with its rush and bustle. We seem to have been transferred as by a magic wand, into the far away days of the Tudor period. Memory comes to our assistance, and we remember having read how the all conquering Romans selected this little plot of land as the site for their settlement. They were probably prompted to this by the fact that on their arrival they found that the spot had already been chosen as a place for residence by their predecessors, the natives. Whilst living here the Romans probably erected the more imposing range of buildings at the other end of Deansgate, and to which they subsequently removed. The earlier occupiers had chosen the spot because its natural situation made it easy for defence.

After the Romans had left Britain the district seemed to lose its place in history until after the Norman Conquest. Then it was that a family belonging to the victorious invaders took up their residence on this site. Here they probably erected a rude mansion

n's  
we  
ng  
th  
ve  
far  
to  
he  
nd  
oly  
ey  
a  
es.  
he  
nd  
d.  
its  
  
ed  
an  
to  
is  
on





CHETHAM COLLEGE—FOX COURT.

where the resident baron dispensed hospitality to strangers, and found employment for his retainers, whose huts clustered around the baronial hall.

On many a fine morning the distant echoes would be roused by the sound of the hunter's horn, as the gallants and their ladies emerging from the gateway, hied them on their way to seek for sport in the woods of Aldport or Blackley. One would like to catch just a glimpse of the Manchester of those days.

Successive Lords of the Manor resided here until, in 1301, we find that the then occupier was Thomas Grelle. A long succession of peaceful years had witnessed the growth of the little community into one of fair dimensions. In the earlier days the miniature island surrounded by the rivers Irwell and Irk, the ditch draining from the higher lands of Shude Hill, and the dyke which connected the Irk with that ditch, was sufficiently large to accommodate the entire population. Expansion had been going on, and one by one houses had been built on the opposite side of the Hanging Ditch. The adjoining settlement of Salford was rejoicing in the greater security and privileges conceded by the charter granted to them seventy years before. These were probably some of the reasons that prompted Thomas Grelle to obtain permission from the King to grant a charter to the burgesses. This was in 1301, and for more than five centuries that charter had much to do with the government of Manchester. The promulgation would take place at the baronial hall that stood on the site of Chetham's Hospital.

Thomas Grelle or Greslet never married, and in

1309 granted his rights as Lord of the Manor to the husband of his sister Joan, Sir John de la Warre, who succeeded to them on the death of Grelle in 1313; he being the ninth baron of Manchester. The eleventh baron, John de la Warre died either unmarried or without leaving a son, and he was succeeded by his brother Thomas, who was rector of Manchester (Mamecestre). Thomas de la Warre was thus both rector and baron. He generously rebuilt, collegiated and endowed with additional lands the parish church; and in this connection probably extended the ancient home of the Grelles which was converted into a college for the use of the clerical staff of the parish church. This took place in 1422.

The building escaped the notice of Henry VIII. when with the zeal of a proselyte he plundered the monasteries at the time of the Reformation; but his successor, Edward VI., dissolved the community, conveying the college to the Earl of Derby, in the possession of whose family it remained until the commonwealth period. At that time James, the seventh Earl of Derby, who had led the siege of the town, was beheaded at Bolton for the splendid services he had rendered to the Stuart cause, in which he was aided by the wife, Charlotte de la Tremouille, whose magnificent defence of Latham is not yet forgotten. His property was at the same time declared to be sequestrated, but his widow petitioned for the return of a portion of it for her support. It is not clearly stated what concession, if any, was made; but we know that soon after Humphrey Chetham's death in

1653 certain feoffees appointed in accordance with his will purchased the college.

Humphrey Chetham was born at Crumpsall, and was baptised at the Collegiate Church on July 10th, 1580. He was educated at the Grammar School, and afterwards entered into the linen and woollen trade. An important branch of his business was that of fustian manufacturing, the rough materials of which were worked at Bolton, the goods being finished at Manchester. Integrity and plain dealing were rewarded by success, and Chetham, soon after reaching forty years of age, became recognised as a public character.

When Charles I. was crowned, he was summoned to London to be knighted, but he escaped the unwished for honour by paying a fine. The fact that he had money was not likely to escape the notice of the king, therefore we read that in November, 1634, he was compelled to accept the office of high sheriff, "discharging the place with great honour, insomuch that very good gentlemen of birth and estate did wear his cloth at the assizes, to testify their unfeigned affection to him." In his official position he was called upon to levy the ship-money impost which cost the king so dear. During the greater part of the war that followed he was compelled to act as general treasurer for the county on behalf of the king. Soon after this he began his great work of charity, and a few years before his death he had charge of twenty-two poor boys who were boarded out at various houses at a cost of 6s. 8d. per month each ; a small sum in our days, but sufficient for the purpose two and a half centuries ago. He wished to bring his flock into one building, and therefore

endeavoured to purchase the college. His negotiations failed, but he left instructions in his will that the number of boys should be increased to forty, and that the college should be purchased when possible. He also left £7,000 to be invested in an estate, the income from which should be devoted to the institution, £1,000 for the purchase of books to form a library, and £100 to pay for housing them. Three years later the boys were transferred to the college, and the books forming the nucleus of the library were also lodged in the building.

This was in 1656, and nine years later a charter was granted by Charles II. making the feoffees a corporate body. Since then the Hospital has been managed by a number of gentlemen occupying a high social position in the county. Owing to the increase in land values the income of the charity gradually increased, until in 1845 there were one hundred boys on the foundation. Since then the income has fluctuated, but the number of boys still remains at one hundred.

To the visitor the Hospital offers many opportunities for intelligent interest apart altogether from the educational work carried on within its walls. First we have the valuable library, which includes many rare manuscripts and printed volumes. Local tracts and books, together with a valuable collection of views contained in scrap books provide an endless source of information. And how intensely interesting the whole building is! Every corner, passage and room could tell a story well worth listening to. As we enter the reading room with its fine old black panelling, and

glance round at the innumerable objects that meet the eye, we seem to be back in the days of Queen Mary. The very chairs and tables belong to the bygone centuries, as also do the two clocks, one of which bears the date 1695. The portraits of worthies, chief amongst whom is Humphrey Chetham, look down upon the visitor from the ancient walls. Close by is the dining room with its screens of massive oak, its chimney corner, and fine open roof; the cloisters looking out on the small court, and the kitchen with its ancient cooking appliances. The dormitories and the audit room with associations with Dr. Dee, the staircases with their beautiful specimens of Jacobean carving, the gateway leading into Long Millgate with its ancient guest chamber over it, and the private room of the genial governor, Mr. Browne, where can be seen the original manuscript of *Christians Awake*, are all worth a day's journey to see; and would be visited more by Manchester people if situated fifty miles away instead of in their midst.

In the middle part of the last century a visit to Manchester was not considered complete if it did not include a stroll through the college. In those days there was on exhibition an assortment of curiosities which were explained parrot fashion by the boys who conducted open-eyed and open-mouthed visitors round the building. This was done in a style peculiar to the college boy, and although we cannot reproduce the voice, or adequately describe its characteristic features, we give below the list of articles then on view.

*Choice Oratorical Catalogue of the Rare and Valuable*

*Curiosities in the College Library, Manchester*, printed by J. Pratt, Bridge Street, 1827.

(Enter boy and boobies).

Boy—That's th' skeleton of a man—that's a globe—that's a telescope—that's a snake—over the snake's back's two watch-bills—those are four ancient swords—that with a white haft once belonged to General Wolfe—that's the whip that the snake was kilt with—that topmost's a crocodile—that bottomost's an alligator—that boot once belonged to Queen Elizabeth—that's an Indian pouch—that's an ancient stiletto—that's part of Humphrey Chetham's armour—that with the white face is a monkey—side of the monkey's a green lizard—side of the lizard's a turtle—those bows and arrows belonged to th' Indians—that's a porpus's head—those are various kinds of adders, worms, snakes, fishes, and venomous creatures—those are a pair of eagle's claws—that arrow belonged to one of the legions that fought under the Duke of Richmond at Bosworth Field, in the year 1485, when King Richard the 3rd, King of England, was slain—those arrows once belonged to Robin Hood—that's a sea hen—that's a sea weed—that's a unicorn fish—that's part of an Indian's skull—that's th' top part of it—that's part of Oliver Cromwell's stone tankard—those balls are took out of a cow—that's part of a loadstone—those two pieces of wood was almanacks before printing was found out—that's a hairy man—under the hairy man's a speaking trumpet—side o' th' speaking trumpet's Oliver Cromwell's sword—that's a leathern bag—side of th' leather bag's two cokey

nut shells—side o' th' porpus's skull's a pumpkin—side o' th' pumkin's an American Cat—over th' pumkin's a turtle—side o' th' turtle's a sea weed—that top one's a crocodile—under the crocodile's an alligator—under the alligator's a woman's clog that was split by a thunderbolt, an' hoo wasn't hurt—side o' th' crocodile's a sea hen—side o' th' sea hen's a Laplander's snow shoe—that in the box is the skeleton of a nightingale—that table has as many pieces as th' days in a year—this clock only strikes once a year—that's cock that crows when it smells roast beef—and that's th' way out."

The matter is referred to by Alexander Wilson in his dialect poem, *Johnny Green's Wedding and description of Manchester College*. The verses dealing with the College are as follows :—

"When th' shot wur paid, an' drink wur done,  
Up Fennel Street, to th' church, for fun ;  
We donced loike morris-dancers dun,  
To th' best of aw mea knowledge ;  
So th' job wur done, i 'hoave a crack ;  
Boh eh ! whot fun to get th' first smack,  
'So neaw, mea lads, 'fore we gun back,'  
Says aw, 'we'n look at th' College.'

We seed a clock-case, first, good laws !  
Wheer Death stonds up wi' great long claws,  
His legs an' wings, an' lantern jaws,  
They really lookt quite feorink.  
There's snakes an' watch-bills, just loike poikes  
'Ot Hunt an aw th' reformints toikes,  
An' thee an' me, an' Sam o' Moikes,  
Once took a blanketeerink.

Eh ! lorjus days, booath far an' woide,  
There's yards o' books at every stroide,  
Fro' top to bottom, end, an' soide,  
Sich plecks, there's very few so ;



Aw axt him if they wurn fur t'sell ;  
 Fur Nan loikes readink vastly well ;  
 Boh th' meastur wur eawt, so he could naw tell,  
 Or aw'd bowt hur Robison Crusoe.

There's a trumpet speyks an' maks a din,  
 An' a shute o' clooas o' made o' tin,  
 For folk to goo a feightink in,  
 Just loike thoose chaps o' Bonney's.  
 An' there's a table carved so queer,  
 Wi' os mony planks os days i'th year,  
 An' crincum-crancums here an' theer,  
 Loike th' clooas press at mea gronney's.

There's Oliver Crummill's bums and balls,  
 An' Frenchman's guns they'd taen i' squalls.  
 An' swords, os lunk os me on th' walls,  
 An' bows and arrows too, mon.  
 Aw didna moind his fearfo words,  
 Nor skeletons o' men an' birds ;  
 Boh aw fair hate seet o' greyt lunk swords,  
 Sin th' feight at Peterloo, mon.

We seed a wooden cock loikewise ;  
 Boh dang it, mon, those college boys,  
 They tell'n a pack o' starink loies,  
 Os sure os teaw'r a sinner ;  
 'That cock, when he smells roast beef, 'll crow,'  
 Says he ; 'But,' aw said, 'teaw lies, aw know,  
 An, aw con prove it plainly so,  
 Aw've a peaund i' mea hat for mea dinner.'

Boh th' hairy mon had miss'd mea thowt,  
 An' th' clog fair crackt by thunner bowt,  
 An' th' woman noather lawm't nor neawt,  
 Theaw ne'er seed loike sin t'ur born, mon ;  
 Theer's crocodiles, an' things indeed,  
 Aw colours, mak, shap, size, an' breed ;  
 An, if aw moot tell t'one heauve aw seed,  
 We moot sit an' smoke till morn, mon."

Some years ago, after accumulating the dust of generations, this curious collection was dispersed, the greater number of the articles going to Peel Park. This was done in order to make room for necessary

extensions in connection with the library. The library is open free to any persons who may wish to consult any volumes to be found on its shelves. Visitors to the building are taken through the various rooms at a charge of sixpence each person, and those who have not as yet made themselves acquainted with this relic of Mamecestre cannot do better than go at the first opportunity.

The library has been mentioned. It was the first collection of books that was thrown open to public use, free of any charge, in England.

The positions of Governor and Librarian have at times been occupied by notable men, but it is doubtful whether any official of the past has been so popular with the lads who have passed under his charge as is the present Governor and Librarian, Mr. W. T. Browne. Mr. Browne is proud of the institution with which he has been connected for many years, and is never more pleased than when acting as guide to a favoured party of visitors. He tells its story, points out the more interesting features of the building, and answers the questions of those whose thirst for knowledge has been aroused by what they have seen, and like antiquarian Oliver Twists ask for more information.

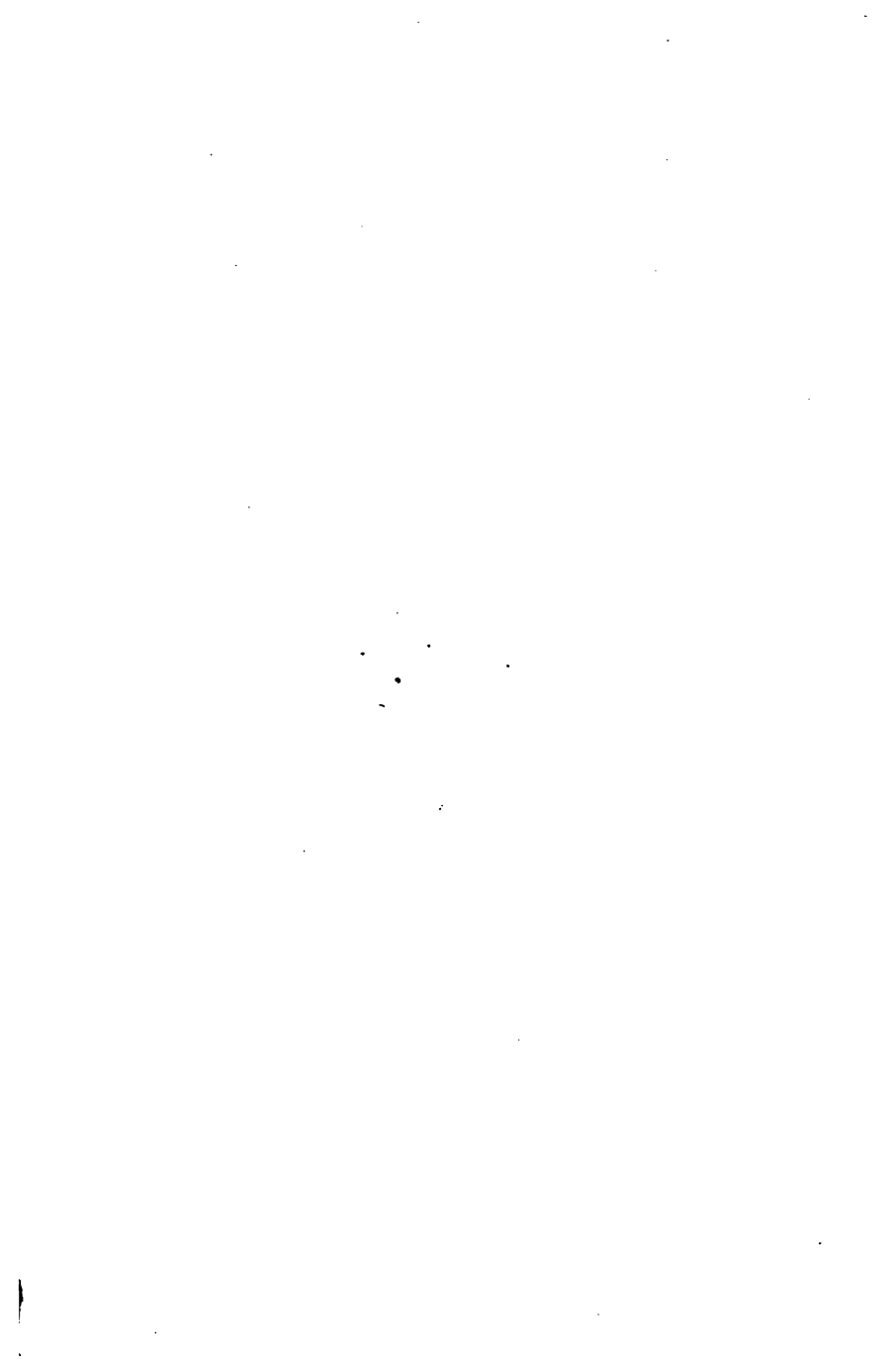


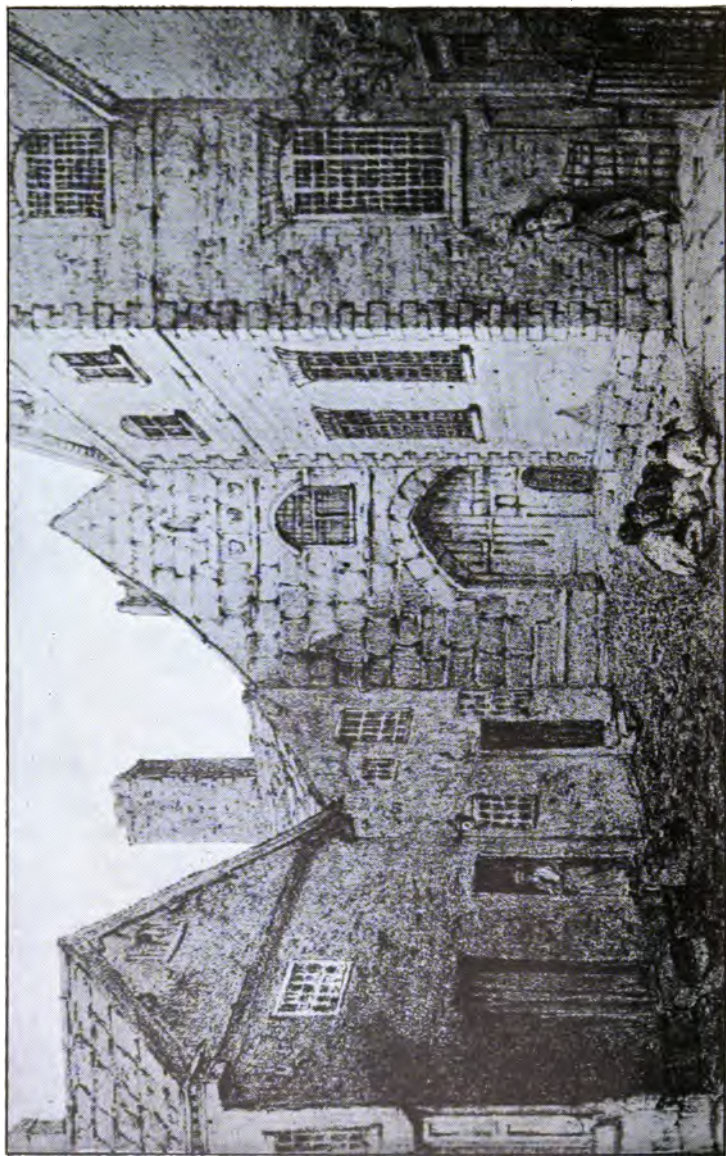
## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART III.

#### THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Adjacent to Humphrey Chetham's College stands another of our educational foundations. Although second in point of age, the Grammar School in other respects is of equal importance with its neighbour, and has a history fully as interesting. As in the case of the College we are indebted to the munificence of its founder for its origin; and as a Manchester worthy, Hugh Oldham stands alongside Humphrey Chetham. These two names, together with those of William Hulme and John Owens form a quartette of which any city in the world might be proud. Although much uncertainty exists as to the birth-place of Hugh Oldham it is generally thought that Crumpsall has the best claims to that honour, and there formerly stood an ancient house known locally as Oldham's tenement. Equal uncertainty exists as to the date of his birth, but it fell somewhere near the middle of the fifteenth century. He was probably indebted for his early instruction to the first Stanley, Earl of Derby, and his wife, Margaret, who in common with many noble families of those days supplied the means of obtaining instruction to the sons of good families. Certain it is, however, that he entered Exeter College, Oxford,





THE FIRST MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL, WITH CHETHAM COLLEGE GATEWAY.

removing later to Queen's College, Cambridge. In 1485 he was admitted to the rectory of St. Mildred's, Bread Street, London. Twenty years later he was made Bishop of Exeter, and in that position he maintained a number of suits against the Abbot of Tavistock on matters pertaining to Church government. Although living in the South of England, the Bishop always remembered the chief town of his native county, and in his will he left instructions that led to the founding of the Manchester Grammar School. His death took place on June 15th, 1519, and his remains were interred in a chapel which he had erected in Exeter Cathedral, and where his monument may still be seen.

The quaint wording of the statutes concerning the endowment of the Grammar School may be quoted, the spelling being modernised. "For the good mind which he had and bare to the county of Lancashire ; concerning the bringing up in learning, virtue, and good manners, children in the same county should be the key and ground to have good people there, which have lacked and wanted in the same, as well for great poverty of the common people there, as also because, of long time past, the teaching, bringing up of young children to school, to the learning of grammar, hath not been taught there for lack of sufficient school-masters and ushers there, so that the children in the same county, having pregnant wit, have been most part brought up rudely and idly and not in virtue, cunning, erudition, literature, and in good manners."

Such were the motives that prompted the good Bishop in the founding and building of the Grammar School in 1575. In his undertaking he was associated

with his sister, Joan Bexwicke, her husband Hugh Bexwicke, and Ralph Hulme. For the endowment of the school they purchased from the Lord of the Manor, the "lands, rents and services of the Manchester Corn Mills and all their tolls" subject to the payment of an annual chief rent of £9 13s. 4d. The mills have been previously referred to. They stood on the banks of the Irk, were the property of the Lord of the Manor under the charter of 1301, and all burgesses were compelled by the same charter to have all their grain ground at the Lord's mills. These privileges passed along with the buildings to the feoffees of the new school, and they were for many generations a substantial source of income. This was confirmed in a later deed in which reference was also made to the fulling mill, which together with the land known as Walker's Croft, and the right of fishing from the place known as "Ashelle Lawne" on the bank of the river Irk down to its junction with the Irwell was conceded to the school. The latter concession is not particularly valuable to-day. Included in the transfer was also some fulling mills in Ancoats; the annual value of the whole being £47 10s. per annum. From documents still existing we find that in all the sum of £218 13s. 5d. was paid for the erection of the school.

Many times in after years the feoffees had trouble respecting infringements of their rights; and in 1561 it was ordered that any such conduct should be met by the imposition of a fine of twenty shillings. Thirty years later Anthony Travis erected a horse mill within the town, and the case was taken before the Duchy Court, who not only gave the feoffees a verdict, but

decided that no hand mill nor querne mill should be used in the town. During the commonwealth period the burgesses were allowed greater freedom, and the income of the school suffered accordingly. In 1647 the feoffees leased the mills to John Hartley at a rental of £130 per annum. In 1728 some persons who had erected a brewhouse in Salford and sold ale to the burgesses of Manchester were required under a penalty of £100 to have all their corn and malt ground at the school mills. Soon afterwards an attempt was made to compel burgesses to grind oats at the same mills, but the judges refused to accede. The school feoffees were almost constantly at war with the burgesses for alleged infringements of the law. Gradually there grew up in the town a strong feeling of resentment on the part of the townspeople, and John Byrom entered into the fray. Two unpopular tenants of the mills were lampooned under the nicknames of Skin and Bone, and Byrom penned the following epigram on the occasion :—

“ Bone and Skin, two millers thin,  
Would starve the town, or near it ;  
But be it known to Skin and Bone  
That flesh and blood won't stand it.”

Matters however went from bad to worse, until in 1757, during a period of great distress and suffering, a food riot took place, which ended in what was afterwards known as the “ Shudehill Fight,” in connection with which four persons were killed and fifteen wounded. An account of the fight will be given when Shudehill is dealt with. As a result of this development an Act of Parliament was passed in 1758 discharging the



inhabitants of the town from their custom of bringing their corn and grain, except malt, to be ground at the School Mills, and ordering the payment of compensation to the feoffees. At the same time the charge for grinding malt was limited to one shilling per load. In this modified form, the right which originated with the charter of 1301 continued down to our own time. Rather more than twenty years ago the mills, together with the foot bridge which gave access to Victoria Station were removed, and in their stead we have to-day the approach to the station.

Before leaving this portion of our subject a few further notes should be made. In 1825 the income of the School was £4,000 per annum, in addition to which there was an accumulated surplus of £20,000 in hand. A new scheme was drawn up, and £10,000 was spent in rebuilding the school and the high master's house. At that time masters were permitted to board scholars in their houses, but as a result of a loud outcry against the practice it was prohibited in 1849. It will be remembered that Thomas de Quincey, one of the most notable of the scholars whose names are associated with the Grammar School, gives an account of his experiences at the school and his escape from the master's house, in his *Opium Eater*. The income of the school was from various reasons precarious and it was decided to limit the number of free scholars to 250, others being admitted on payment of the annual fee of twelve guineas. In spite of much opposition this radical change was adopted in 1865. Later, in 1877, a final change was made, and to-day 160 free scholars, winners of scholarships, are chosen.

Let us now turn to the history of the buildings. The first school was taken down in 1776, and a year later the second building was opened. It stood on the right hand side of the gateway leading to the college, and consisted of two stories. In the front gable was a medallion representing an owl, the bird of wisdom; which relic is still carefully preserved. The upper storey was approached by a flight of stone steps, at the foot of which was the entrance to the ground floor. In a cottage adjoining the school, with window looking into Long Millgate, the Rev. Joshua Brookes lived for many years, and for a portion of that time he was on the teaching staff. De Quincey's "Millgate's Flogging Turk," Charles Lawson, lived in a house in Long Millgate, between the school and Fennel Street, and De Quincey records in graphic style how he stole away from the house in the early hours of a glorious summer morning, and commenced that remarkable series of wanderings which closed with his earliest experiences of life in London. In 1835 the house was taken down, and on its site a new schoolroom was built, the high master's house being erected at the corner of Long Millgate and Fennel Street. The latter building is now known as the Cathedral Hotel.

The next change took place in 1867, when the buildings extending from the corner of Fennel Street to the College gate were erected; and in 1880 the remainder of the buildings were put up.

In common with all public schools there is on record a large number of stories concerning the school, its masters and its scholars in by-gone days, but space forbids their recital. Mention must however be made

to an ancient custom that was observed year by year for several centuries.

Amongst the original rules of the school dating back to 1515 was the following one: "That every school-master and usher, for ever, from time to time, shall teach freely and indifferently, every child and scholar coming to the same school, without any money or other reward therefor, as cock-penny, victor-penny, potation-penny, or any other, whatsoever it be, except only his said stipend or wage, hereafter specified." This refers to the custom of throwing at cocks on Shrove Tuesday, the cock-penny being paid to the master by the scholars for permission to do this or to indulge in the pastime of cock-fighting. The victor-penny was paid for the scholar who was most successful in throwing or whose cock escaped unhurt. In return for the payment the master allowed the victorious boy to ride as victor. The victor was carried shoulder high by his companions, he holding his cock in his hand. Followed by other boys bearing flags, etc., the procession made its way along the streets of the town. The potation-penny was paid by the scholars to the master to enable him to give an entertainment at some season of the year to the scholars on quitting school. As none of these payments were allowed to be made, it is evident that it was the intention of the framers of the statutes to discountenance both forms of sport referred to, and in a further rule they are expressly prohibited: "The scholars of the same school shall use no cock-fights, nor other unlawful games, and riding about for victors, or other disports had in these parts, which be to the great let (hindrance) of learning and virtue, and to the

charge of the scholars and their friends." As a result of this declaration, an evasion was allowed by successive masters. The cocks were buried in the ground with the upper part of the neck and head showing above the soil. Standing about thirty yards away the boys would shoot at the unfortunate birds with bows and arrows. If a boy succeeded in hitting one of the birds and in drawing blood he claimed the cock as his prize, and if any boy's cock passed through the ordeal without loss of blood the owner was declared victor. About 1772 the custom was abolished and in its stead shooting at a target was introduced. On Easter Tuesday morning the masters and scholars assembled in the school-room with a band of music, banners, etc. They also carried with them a target fixed in a square frame to which was suspended one or more pairs of silver buckles, which were to constitute the first prize, the second prize being a cock. Walking in procession by way of Long Millgate and Walker's Croft they arrived at some extensive gardens on the bank of the Irk, and now covered by railway premises. Here the contest was fought out, and after the prizes had been awarded the procession was reformed, the goal being now the Bull's Head Inn, Market Place, where the juniors were entertained with "fermenty," the masters and elder scholars partaking of roast beef and plum pudding. The custom was abolished by Dr. Smith.

The school has been fortunate in its masters; and has been equally fortunate in the many brilliant scholars who commenced their successful careers within its walls. Only the briefest reference can be made to the former. One of the earliest high masters was Thomas Coghlan,

M.A., M.B., who was appointed in 1574 and retired about 1600. He was the author of several works, the best known of which is *The Haven of Health*, published in 1584. A century later a rebellion broke out amongst the scholars, who for a fortnight held possession of the building to the exclusion of the masters, the "insurgents" being provided with bedding, food, firearms, and ammunition by some of the neighbours. In the end they were compelled to surrender. This was in 1690. Half a century later one of the greatest masters ever associated with the school became second master. After acting in that capacity for some years, Charles Lawson was appointed High Master in 1764. When Purnall was high master he entered into a controversy with Dr. John Byrom about the propriety of stage plays for boys. By 1759 the case for the production of plays had so far been successful that *Cato* was produced. The caste included several names that became well-known in later years. It included a future Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas, a future Vice-President of Brasenose College, a future Archdeacon of Richmond, a future Senior Wrangler, a future Recorder of Chester, and a future Judge of the King's Bench. Lawson was succeeded by Dr. Jeremiah Smith, under whose regime W. Harrison Ainsworth attended the school. To the high masters of the last half century the cause of education owes much. They have included F. W. Walker, reputed by some to be the greatest school-master of his time, John E. King, and the present popular master, J. L. Paton.

## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART IV.

#### THE LORD'S BAKEHOUSE AND LANGLEY HALL.

To many of my readers the above heading will appear strange, and will require a little explanation. Reference has been made to the charter granted to the people of Mamecestre in 1301, and mention has been made of the powers of the Lord of the Manor. The charter was of great importance to the burgesses of the town, but was of greater value to the Lord of the Manor. Amongst the various rights confirmed to him was that of baking the bread of the burgesses. For this purpose an oven was erected by the Lord of the Manor and was let by him to a tenant to whom he transferred his rights for the time being. To this oven we have references as far back as 1282, in which year it was stated to be worth ten shillings a year. What the rate of charge was at the period we are not told, but we know that in 1290 the charge made for baking bread at Newcastle-on-Tyne was at the rate of fourpence per quarter of flour baked. In 1320 the annual value of the Lord's oven in Manchester was stated to be 6s. 8d. Two centuries later the court leet assessed the value at the same amount, John Chalner being instructed to pay that rental to the Lord of the Manor. In 1561 the same individual also paid

the annual rent of fourpence for the tenancy of a grange or farm building situated like the bakehouse in Long Millgate. Chalner's successor at the bakehouse was Richard Foxe, who in 1580 was succeeded by Lawrence Robinson of Salford who also paid an annual rental of one shilling for a farmhouse. How long this custom prevailed cannot be definitely ascertained, nor have we been able to locate the precise position of the building. It may be that the bakehouse court of more recent times had some association with it. Certain it is that the burgesses never took kindly to the imposition, and that as a result it died out a few centuries ago.

#### LANGLEY HALL.

In our time we must strain our imagination ere we can realise the fact of a landed proprietor residing in Long Millgate, but in the days of Queen Elizabeth the Langley family resided in a mansion variously named at different periods Old Greave Hall, Langley Hall, and Culcheth Hall. It stood on the left hand side of the street near to Scotland Bridge, and at one time must have been a mansion of considerable size. Three centuries ago Robert Langley, who lived there, took a very active part in local affairs. His father, Sir Robert, died in 1562, and he succeeded to the family estate. In 1573 he purchased a piece of land known as Clemence Croft from John Gregorie. In 1581, the conduit that stood in the market place being in a dilapidated condition, Robert Langley, along with a number of other burgesses, were appointed by the court leet to see to its restoration and maintainance.

Two years before, Langley had been appointed borough

reeve of the town, and the occasion gave rise to an interesting dispute. Hollingworth in his *Mancuniensis* says: "Anno 1578 there was a difference between the lord and the town about the choice of a borough reeve. The steward chose John Gee, but the town chose Rob. Langley." The only name in the court leet book is that of Robert Langley who was a member of the jury; but whereas the constables have appended to their names the letters "jur," signifying that they had been sworn in, the letters do not follow Langley's name, which looks as if the steward had refused to swear in the borough reeve. The Lord of the Manor, through his steward, Randal Hurlestone, exceeded his rights in claiming the nomination of borough reeve, and the court leet basing their claim upon the charter of 1301 and precedence, gained the day. On two subsequent occasions, in 1587 and 1603, Robert Langley was selected borough reeve.

The name Langley is frequently met with in the court leet records, and reference may be made to several of those occasions. In 1587 there seems to have been a footpath leading through the fields from Strangeways Park, past Knowles House, that formerly stood somewhere near to where the converted Unitarian Church is in New Bridge Street, and past Walker's Croft to the bridge over the Irk at the bottom of Mill Brow. The path was closed by Thomas Strangewaies, and as it was a means of access to some of Langley's land the closing of the path caused him serious inconvenience. Seven years later Langley was himself an offender in another similar case. He had removed two stiles which gave access to another field path



near to Ashley Lane, and the court ordered that the stiles should be replaced under a penalty of five shillings. There was evidently work for a footpath's preservation society in those days more than three centuries ago. The court leet do not seem to have been armed with any great powers to act in the matter, for in the case before us Langley appears to have ignored their instruction, and in 1596 the matter was up again when the order was repeated with the increased penalty of forty shillings if the order of the court was still disobeyed. This large penalty failed to secure obedience on the part of Langley and in 1601 the matter was again before the court. Another quotation may be made. In 1596 the court found that divers encroachments had been made upon the river Irk, between the mill in the occupation of Jervis Travis and the mill then in the occupation of Robert Langley and commonly called the *Nar Mylne*. It is thought that Langley's Mill was the Walker or Fulling Mill that stood on and gave the name to Walker's Croft. The last scene is recorded in the collegiate church register where we find the entry, "1616 Julie 2nd. Robert Langley, of the Mylnegate, gent; buried."

Rather more than a century later an advertisement in *Whitworth's Manchester Magazine* announced for sale Langley Hall, then converted into several dwellings with gardens and ten acres of land. And thus we leave the old family mansion. The hand of decay had left traces upon it, but of its later career we know nothing authentic. It is said that a portion remained to our time, but the evidence adduced in support of the statement is not convincing.

## OTHER OLD TIME RESIDENCES.

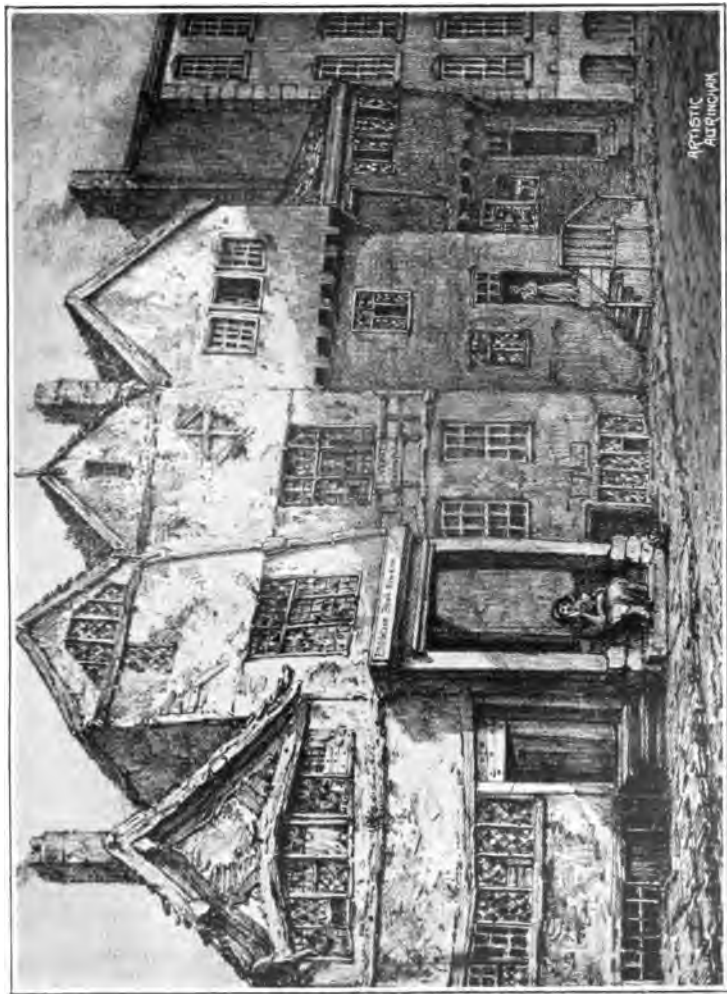
In 1572, when probably residing at Alport Lodge, Deansgate, the Earl of Derby purchased "three burgages in the Milnegate and Fenel Strete, being chantry lands." From this we learn that the rents of the houses formed part of the endowment of one of the chantries that formerly ran along two sides of the collegiate church. After the Reformation these chantries were known as chapels, and in later years the division walls between them and the body of the church were pulled down and the area added to the church.

This accounts for the unusual width of the church. Several of the chantries were retained unaltered for some time, and these remain to-day, although devoted to other than their original purposes. The Derby Chapel has survived, and the buildings in Long Millgate probably formed a portion of its endowment. It is thought that one if not the whole of the three burgages stood nearly opposite to the Manchester Arms, and forty years ago there could be seen in one of the rooms of an old house then standing, a ceiling decorated with representations of an "Eagle and Child," and the "Three Legs of Man" in panels, surrounded by designs of flowers and fruit in plaster.

Nearer to the collegiate church there stood a group of old buildings which like those just referred to belonged to the black and white period. These also remained until a few years ago, although time and neglect had reduced them to a state of delapidation. There was attached to them a story well worthy of repetition. During the latter portion of the fourteenth century a change was gradually taking place, a change that

was fraught with the most important consequences to England generally, but to Lancashire particularly. Hitherto the sole occupation of the lower classes had been that of agriculture. Now a change was taking place, many husbandmen were becoming artisans, and many landed proprietors were launching out into trade. Manchester was one of the first of the English towns to feel the benefit of the change. The woollen industry began to develop and our town soon became the centre of unwonted commercial and industrial activity. Following the woollen came the bleaching and dyeing industries, which naturally became associated with the banks of the river Irk.

Long Millgate soon became an important thoroughfare, and the number of houses grew rapidly. Just about the same time the movement received a great impetus from outside. The persecution of the Protestants in the Netherlands, accompanied as it was by the introduction of the Inquisition and the barbarities of the Duke of Alva, drove from the country many of the more industrious of the inhabitants of the low country. Many of these had been trained in the arts pertaining to manufactures, and they found in England many who were fully aware of the value of their knowledge. A number of Flemish weavers found their way to Manchester, and took up their abode in the houses just referred to, and the townsmen of the time were not slow in learning all that the refugees could teach them. The Flemish weavers were industrious workers, Manchester's name and fame as a manufacturing centre grew apace, and in 1650 we are told that the inhabitants were the most hard working of any in the northern part of the country.



ARTISTIC  
RENDERING

OLD BUILDINGS IN LONG MILLGATE.



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART V.

#### SOME NOTABLE RESIDENTS.

##### MADAM DRAKE.

When Casson and Berry issued their interesting plans of the town as it was a hundred and sixty years ago, as we have noted in an earlier chapter, Long Millgate had not yet lost its rural appearance. Gardens and orchards were common and beyond the gardens were the open fields. One of the best known residents belonging to that period was Squire Drake, who in 1741 occupied one of the larger houses in the lane. A few years later an entry was made in the overseers' accounts to the effect that a charge of eleven pounds was made upon "Madam Drake's house and field." After her death the house was converted into a tavern, of which Caleb Sutton, vintner, as apparently the first landlord. Proctor says that Sutton left it in 1768, but this is apparently not quite correct, for in Manchester's first directory, published in 1772, is the entry "Sutton, Caleb, victualler, Crown and Shuttle, Long Millgate." Aston says that in 1804 the building was tenanted by a baker. However this may have been, members of the Barlow family occupied the old house and the corner of Miller's Lane for over sixty years, during which period it was a licensed house with the

old sign. Its transformation into a modern public house took place in 1859. So much for the house, let us now turn our attention to its one time owner and occupier. She was manifestly a woman who held strong views, and had the courage of her convictions. One writer says that to her death, she refused to drink the new fashionable beverage, tea, preferring a tankard of home-brewed. Reference has been made in an earlier volume to the position she took up as a leader of politics and fashion amongst the ladies of the period, and how she entered into competition with Lady Ann Bland. She was the first person in the town to run a private carriage, and a contemporary tells us that she always wore silk stockings, another luxury beyond the reach of most of her fellow townfolk of 1750.

#### THE HAWORTH FAMILY.

One of the few surviving old houses in the street is the one known as the Manchester Arms; and a view of the mansion as it was in 1745 was printed in Casson and Berry's map. It was formerly the home of the Haworths, a name which appears in the church register as far back as 1699. In 1759 Abraham Haworth died at the age of 76, and two years later it was advertised for sale, together with a large garden. It apparently did not change hands for in the 1772 directory we find the entry, "Haworth, John, Esq., Long Millgate." In 1785 James Sadler, the first English aeronaut, exhibited his balloon at the Exchange, and on May 12th he tested its merits by ascending with it from a field that lay behind, and was connected with, Mr. Haworth's house. Until a few years ago a passage running alongside







the house was known as Haworth's Gates. Originally this was the way to the back part of the house, and to the garden, orchard, and large field that lay behind it. It was from this field that Sadler made his ascent, taking along with him in the car a cat. So great was the interest aroused by this first balloon ascent from Manchester that the charges made for admission to the field were 5s. and 10s. 6d. A few days later he made a second ascent from Long Millgate, descending on that occasion at Pontefract. Sadler's most remarkable achievement was his journey from Dublin in 1812, when, after travelling upwards of two hundred miles, he was picked up by the crew of a fishing boat not far from Liverpool. In the same year he again visited Manchester, and made an ascent from Davenport's Rope Walk, behind Peel and Williams's Foundry at the corner of Swan Street. In all he made fifty ascents, and closed an adventurous career in the quiet seclusion of the Charterhouse. Needless to say Balloon Street took its name from the association referred to.

John Haworth died in 1786 and the property passed into the possession of his daughter, who had married the Hon. Edward Percival. Very soon afterwards it was converted into an inn with the name it still bears. In 1788 a coach ran from the house to Bury three times a week. When Wilson painted his picture of a Lancashire Rush Cart he chose Long Millgate as the scene, the cart being represented as passing the Manchester Arms. The picture is full of interest, and many well-known residents are represented amongst the group of figures contained in it. The Rev. Joshua Brookes is there about to strike a college boy, presumably because

the latter was neglecting his duties in being there. Close by is Gentleman Cooper, a noted pedestrian of the day, the artist himself, and a portly publican, Henry Slater. The rush-cart, decorated with silver plate, is drawn by gaily decked horses, and is accompanied by a group of morris dancers, who are giving an exhibition of their skill in front of the inn, from the windows of which some excited individuals are shouting. The whole picture is of very great interest as depicting a scene in the life of the city that will never be repeated.

#### A NOTABLE FAMILY.

The painter of the picture was Alexander Wilson, who carried on business as a broker at 63 Long Millgate. He belonged to a somewhat talented family, many of whose poems are to be found in a volume bearing the title *Songs of the Wilsons*. The grandfather of Alexander Wilson came from Edinburgh, and settled down as a handloom weaver in Newton Lane, as Oldham Road was formerly called. He had four sons, the eldest of whom, Michael, commenced business as a furniture broker in Red Bank, removing in 1809 to 36 Long Millgate. Michael Wilson was the author of several dialect poems, the best of which is *Jone's Ramble fro' Owdham to Karsymoor Races*, one verse of which may be quoted to give some idea of Manchester early race meetings and their accompaniments.

“ Neaw th’ horses had done runnink,  
An’ nowt boh shows wurn laft to see ;  
Aw’d seen Punch at th’ beginnink,  
An’t that wur quoite enuff for me ;  
So aw bowt plumcakes, fill’d wi’ plums,  
Mich bigger far nor my two thumbs,  
Hot cakes, fruit tarts, an’ Chelsea buns,  
Meh pockets they wurn fill’d wi’ crumbs.”

About the actual racing he says :

“ Neaw th’ stonds begun o-filink,  
‘ Walk up, walk up ! ’ the owners croy’d ;  
They ask’d me for a shillink,  
Boh aw took me o’er to th’ green hill soide,  
An’ neaw the horses made a start,  
Oych mon o’ tit-back play’d his part ;  
It pleas’d me to mi very heart,  
Eawr Doll ne’er went so fast i’ th’ cart.”

His poem *Salford Fair* is full of local colour, and is worth reading for that reason.

When his wife died in 1834, Michael Wilson gave up business, and went to live with two of his sons. He died on February 27th, 1840, aged seventy seven.

His eldest son, Thomas, received his education at Chetham’s Hospital, and was apprenticed to a firm of smallware manufacturers. In 1826 he commenced business with his brother William, but as a result of a succession of losses they failed in 1842. He, along with scores of other Manchester men, indulged in a practice which brought him into the clutches of the law. When England was engaged in the French wars it became necessary to pay the troops in specie. There was therefore a demand for gold coins which was far in excess of the number issued from the mint. Guineas consequently became scarce and in spite of the law a traffic in them sprang up. The price of the coins fluctuated from twenty one to twenty nine shillings. Ultimately the Government prosecuted a number of offenders—Thomas Wilson being one of the number—He was tried at Lancaster and was sentenced to six month’s imprisonment. He died in 1852. His poems include one on the *Humours of Smithy Door Market*,

and a dialect one entitled, *The Countryman's Description of the Collegiate Church*. In one of his effusions he satirised the Rev. Joshua Brookes who, although the poem was not printed at the time, offered a reward of £5 to anyone who would inform him as to the author. No one ever claimed the reward, and the poem was printed for the first time when Harland published his *Songs of the Wilsons*.

Samuel was Michael Wilson's fourth son. He was educated at Roby School, Piccadilly, and after being ordained as an Independent Minister, resided for sixteen years at Malta. Although no poems from his pen seem to have survived, he showed as a lad that he had the family's facility for writing in rhyme. It is said of him that on one occasion he ran home full of excitement, having just seen the dispersal of a meeting of hand-loom weavers in St. George's Fields by the Royal Irish Dragoons.

He had heard his father and brothers giving expression to their thoughts in verse ; and as he entered the house on that occasion he said. " Father, I've made a song." In reply to his father's request to produce it he said :

" It was in th' year one thousand eight hundred and eight."

Then he paused. " Well," said the father, " go on."

" A lot of bold weavers stood in a line straight."

" Very good," said his father, " what's next ? "

He raised his hand above his head as if wielding a sword :

" Then coom th' barrack sogers o' in a splutter,  
And knock'd the poor weavers right into the gutter."

Another son, William, was a good musician and an efficient vocalist, but the most accomplished of Michael Wilson's seven sons was the youngest, Alexander. Not only was he a song writer of much merit, but as a self-taught artist he gained a more than local reputation. As an animal painter he enjoyed a great reputation, and received commissions to paint many successful race-horses. One of his pictures, *The Manchester Cockpit*, portrayed a number of well-known sportsmen of the day in eager attitudes grouped around the one-time popular resort. His best known picture, *The Manchester Rushcart*, has already been described. His songs included *Johnny Green's Trip fro' Owdham to see a Balloon Ascent*, *Johnny Green's Description of Tinker's Gardens*, *Johnny Green's Wedding and Description of Manchester College*, *Johnny Green's Trip fro' Owdham to see the Liverpool Railway*, and *Paginini, or Manchester Fiddling Mad*. To a generation to whom Tinker's or Vauxhall Gardens are not even a memory perhaps a few lines reminiscent of this once popular resort will be acceptable. After a few preliminary lines, he says :

"Aw paid mi brass, an' in aw goes,  
An' eh ! whot shady beawers i' rows,  
Wheer lots o' ladies, and their beaus  
Wurn set to get their baggins.

There's bonfeoirs fix'd o' th' top o' pows,  
To leet yor poipes an' warm yor nose ;  
Then a thing to tell which way th' wind goes,  
An' th' fishpond too did pleas mea ;  
Boh th' reawnd-heawse is the rummest shop,  
It's fixt on here and theer a prop,  
Just loike a great umbrella top,  
If it's not, Jimmy Johnson squeeze mi.

Aw seed a cage as big, aw'll swear,  
 As a wild beast show i' Sawfort fuir,  
 There's rappits, birds, an' somethings theer,  
     Aw couldna' gawm, by th' mass, mon ;  
 Aw thowt o' pullink one chap's wigs,  
 For tellink me they'r guinea-pigs,  
 Says au ' Mi lad aw'm up to your rigs,  
     They're noan worth hawve o' th' brass, mon."

And so he goes describing in homely fashion the attractions of the gardens, the site of which is unmarked in a wilderness of bricks and mortar save where here and there a street name rings familiarly on the ear, bearing as it does reminiscences of the past. Alexander Wilson died rather suddenly on January 6th, 1846 aged forty-three years. His epitaph, written by Elijah Ridings is as follows :—

" Thy strains have charmed the evening hours  
     With inoffensive glee ;  
 And they who know thy varied powers,  
     May well remember thee.  
 While wit and humour are admired  
     Thy quaint and cheerful rhymes,  
 By truest genius inspired,  
     Will brighten future times."

#### RICHARD WRIGHT PROCTER.

In a quaint little shop, removed some years ago to make way for the Grammar School extensions, Richard Wright Procter followed the occupation of a hair-dresser, and kept a circulating library ; and in his spare time wrote a number of volumes that have been the source of delight and information to many readers. Perhaps out of the many thousands of persons who resided in Long Millgate no one of them can be said to have been so thoroughly associated with it as Procter.

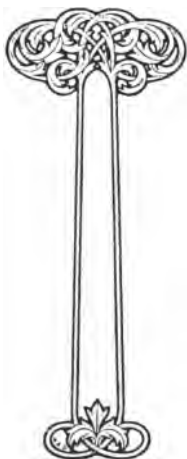
For over forty years he carried on business there, and he died there on September 11th, 1881. Born in Paradise Vale, Salford, in 1816, he received only a smattering of education. Being left an orphan at ten years of age, he was then apprenticed to a barber. Much of his spare time was devoted to study and reading, and before he was twenty years old many verses from his pen had appeared in the local newspapers.

He was associated with the poets who met at the Sun Inn, and he was also a frequent visitor at the gatherings from which sprang the Manchester Literary Club. He married in 1840, and about five years afterwards he added to his business of hairdressing a circulating library. It may be noted here that a copy of one of the scarcest of Charles Dicken's works, *Sunday under Three Heads*, now in the Manchester Reference Library, was formerly on Procter's library shelves. The little volume has therefore associated with it a double interest. Although Procter was a regular contributor to the muses columns of our local press for many years, it was not until 1855 that he published his first volume. It was an anthology with the title of *Gems of Thought and Flowers of Fancy*. A year later appeared *The Barber's Shop*, with illustrations by William Morton. These were followed in later years by *Literary Reminiscences* in 1860; *Our Turf, Stage and Ring*, in 1866; *Manchester in Holiday Dress*, in 1874; *Memorials of Manchester Streets*, in 1874; and *Memorials of Bygone Manchester*, in 1880.

In the last four volumes Mr. Procter is seen at his best, and the volumes form a lasting monument to his industry. Exact in his statement of facts, and



writing in a style at once simple and interesting, his books always repay perusal. Having spent nearly the whole of his life in the city, and having devoted much time to the study of its records, he knew the story of its streets in a manner equalled by few. As a result of this he made the acquaintance of and gained the respect of all Manchester men interested in antiquarian and literary subjects; and when his remains were laid to rest in St. Luke's Churchyard, many representative men were present. His death removed our greatest authority on our streets, and left a blank not yet filled up. He loved the city much in the same way that Charles Lamb loved London, but with the difference that he delighted also in country life.



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART VI.

#### TWO NOTABLE CHARACTERS.

##### SAM BAMFORD.

Amongst the men who have at one time or another resided in Long Millgate must be included Sam. Bamford and John Critchley Prince.

In neither case was the period of residence long, but both men were so intimately connected with the literary men associated with our street that it would be an error of judgment to exclude them from notice. More than this, both men played important parts in their respective spheres, and both have been dead long enough to cause their names and work to be little more than a distant memory to most Manchester men.

Samuel Bamford, the son of a master weaver, was born at Middleton on February 28th, 1788. His father knew only too well the pinch of poverty, but in spite of his disadvantages made himself acquainted with the books of some of our greatest writers. In a small way he was also an author, several of his poems having survived. The following verse from one of them shows that when Sam was seven years old the lot of the workers was a pitiable one.

“ Burdens enormous lie  
On the community  
Hard to endure ;  
And the poor workman's pay  
By tax is taen away  
From his starved family,  
God help the poor.”

It was about this time that Bamford's father was appointed manager of a manufactory of cotton goods at the Manchester workhouse—and some time afterwards was appointed governor of the institution. Smallpox and fever carried off his wife and two children soon after Daniel Bamford entered upon his new duties, and he himself approached very near to death. Sam. Bamford's first school was in Hanover Street, after which he studied under John Holt, who had a school in Oldham Street, from whom he was removed to enter the Grammar School. He afterwards learned weaving, was for a short time a sailor on board a coasting vessel working between London and Shields, acted as warehouseman for Messrs. Hale, Wilkinson, and Gartside, of Peel Street, Manchester, and afterwards became a weaver again at Middleton. His knowledge of the sufferings of the poor was the result of personal experience, and he was never doubtful as to the position he ought to take up when the question of reform was discussed. He tells us in his *Early Days*, and *Passages in the Life of a Radical* how it was that he came to identify himself with the reformers of a century ago. Small matter is it for surprise then that he soon became a marked man, and was arrested for political offences in 1815 and 1819. In the latter year he acted as one of the organisers of the company of reformers who walked from Middleton to Manchester to take part

in the great gathering on St Peter's Field. In his *Life of a Radical* he gives a thrilling account of that gathering that has been familiar to succeeding generations of Manchester people as "Peterloo." Not less interesting is his account of his own arrest and trial along with Henry Hunt and others on a charge of "conspiracy to alter the legal frame of government and constitution of these realms, and with meeting tumultuously at Manchester." For this offence, being found guilty, he was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in Lincoln Castle. His employments in later years included that of reporter for various London and other newspapers, and seven years' engagement as a clerk in the Board of Inland Revenue Offices at Somerset House. His last fourteen years were spent at Moston, where he died on April 13th, 1872. He was buried at Middleton Church where a monument marks the last resting place of the sturdy radical.

Although more than sixty years have passed since the two modest volumes bearing the title *Passages in the Life of a Radical* were published, the books are as fresh and as interesting to the readers as they were when issued. Read along with the *Early Days* they present a living picture of life in Lancashire a century ago; and the student who is desirous of forming a correct judgment on the state of the country during the period that they cover, will find them invaluable. They tell in simple language the story of the struggle for political freedom. The "Radical" volumes appear to have been printed and published separately. The title page of the first volume is undated and gives as the publishers "London, W. Strange; Edinburgh,

W. Tait ; Manchester, A. Heywood and W. Gadsby," whereas the second is dated 1844 and bears the name, "London, Simpkin, Marshall and Co." Volume one was printed by J. Heywood, of Heywood, and the second by A. Burgess and Co., Manchester. *Early Days* first appeared in 1849, a cheap edition being published ten year later. The scarcest of Bamford's works is his *Walks in South Lancashire and its Borders*, published in 1844 by the author at Blackley. It gives us glimpses of the county as it was before the rapid multiplication of cotton mills and their accompanying rows of cottages obliterated much of rural beauty from its borders. In 1850 Bamford issued an interesting volume under the title, *Dialect of South Lancashire, or Tummas and Meary revised and corrected*, in which he placed on record much valuable information concerning words used in the dialect of sixty years ago. So much for Bamford's prose works, by which he will always be best known. Something remains to be said about his efforts in verse. Like many another writer his first appearance as an author was in the guise of a poet, and as early as 1834 he published a volume of nearly a hundred pages with the title : *Hours in the Bowers ; Poems, etc.*, which was followed in 1843 by a larger volume with the simple title : *Poems*. His latest volume entitled : *Homely Rhymes, Poems, and Reminiscences*, appeared in 1864. It is a reprint of the earlier volumes of poems, together with fifty additional items and sixteen pages of reminiscences.

JOHN CRITCHLEY PRINCE.

Having referred to Bamford, let us now turn our

attention to another author, who, although he was possessed of great natural gifts, was cursed by having a pronounced weakness of character that aided misfortune in making shipwreck of his life. Genius is an ineradicable bent and is entirely distinct from, and independent of character. The life of John Critchley Prince provides ample proof of the truth of this axiom. Prince was born at Wigan, June 21st, 1808, his father being a reed maker. Poverty and intemperance were the father's principal characteristics, but the mother was endowed with a strong maternal feeling, high principles and sound common sense. Prince's education was confined to attendance at a Sunday School where he learnt to read and write imperfectly. His thirst for knowledge was such, however, that he embraced every opportunity for study that presented itself.

After a childhood marked by poverty and privation he was apprenticed to reed-making, working often from fourteen to sixteen hours per day. His father did much to discourage his studious habits, but when the family had retired for the night he would creep downstairs and by the dim light of a stacked fire would read. When thirteen years old he left Wigan for Manchester in company with his father in search for work, which both obtained at Messrs. Sharp and Roberts, the engineers. To this period belongs the lad's first introduction to Byron, Thomson, and Goldsmith. A removal to Hyde, the increasing intemperance of the father, and the marriage of the son at the early age of nineteen next followed. Young Prince found that marriage with an empty cupboard was not

calculated to be satisfactory in its results, and in 1830, hearing that reed makers were wanted in France, he set out for that country in July of that year. Leaving Calais he travelled to St. Quentin, where he hoped to obtain employment, but after staying there two months without satisfactory result, he made his way through Paris to Mulhausen. Failure still dogged him, and with ten sous in his pocket he set out on his return to Hyde. On foot he journeyed along the banks of the Rhine, through Strasburg, Nancy, Rheims, Cherlous and on to Calais, where he obtained from the British Consul his return passage money. Penniless and hungry he tramped to London. Failing to obtain work, he begged and sang his way back to Hyde, only to find that his wife and family had been sent to the workhouse at Wigan. Hurrying to that town Prince brought his family out of the workhouse and on to Manchester. He took a miserable garret in one of the dingy courts off Long Millgate, and without food or furniture the family were re-united. For months they lay on straw and starved on the result of occasional work that the wife obtained; Prince still failing in his search. Death removed one of his three children, and the poet was heart broken at the misfortunes that seemed to pursue him. Removing to Hyde he obtained employment with his father, and whilst there he made a number of friendships which resulted in the formation of a little circle known as "The Literary Twelve." In 1841, amidst more cheering conditions, he published his first volume, *Hours with the Muses*, which in all ran through six editions. About the same time Prince had returned to Long

Millgate, where he took a small shop nearly opposite to the "Sun Inn." By selling stationery, periodicals, song books, etc., he sought to support his family. In the meantime his volume had spread his fame as a poet, but money remained a scarcity with him. He made the acquaintance of the literary coterie who met at the "Sun Inn," Prince acting as Secretary. Further reference to the inn must be deferred to the next chapter. In 1843 Prince removed to Blackburn, and later to Ashton-under-Lyne. For some time he had shown a tendency to over indulgence in drink, which increased as he became older. His misfortunes, together with his abilities, aroused the sympathy of a number of admirers, who formed a committee to assist him financially, and in the publishing of his second volume, *Dreams and Realities*.

In 1850 he published *The Poetic Rosary*, and in 1856 *Autumn Leaves*. Two years later his wife died, and it was long before he recovered from the shock occasioned by the loss. He still suffered from want, and for this or some other reason appears for some years, at least, to have mastered the craving to drink. In 1862 he married again, his wife being a careful thrifty woman, who was content to help him in his poverty by means of her earnings. A few weeks afterwards Prince was taken with an apoplectic seizure, as a result of which he fell downstairs and was taken up for dead. Misfortune still accompanied him, and on January 12th, 1866 he wrote to George Falkner : " I am very ill ; incapable of either mental or physical exertion, and still without employment." On May 5th he died, and five days afterwards his remains were



laid at rest at St. George's Church, Hyde. Thus there passed away one of the gentlest of men, one of the most unfortunate of workers, and the most gifted poet ever associated with Long Millgate. The shop in which he strove to eke out an existence has disappeared, and the spot is marked by some portion of the site of the Grammar School buildings. Let us now turn to the "Sun Inn," that home of poesy in bygone days, which will ever be associated with Prince and his brother bards.



THE  
**FESTIVE WREATH**  
A COLLECTION OF  
Original Contributions

READ AT A  
**LITERARY MEETING,**

Held in Manchester March 24<sup>th</sup> 1842 at



THE SUN INN LONG MILLS LANE

MANCHESTER. BRADSHAW & BLACKLOCK.  
and all Booksellers



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART VII.

#### THE "SUN INN," OR "POETS' CORNER."

Few buildings in our city have been drawn and photographed oftener than the little old building that seems to block the way of traffic in Long Millgate. The merest novice in such matters can see at a glance that it belonged to a period of our city's history long since passed away. To-day many of the pedestrians who pass it are either on their way to or from the adjacent railway station. To such the old building appears in the light of an obstruction, and most people are of opinion that its days are numbered. Let us note down its story. It takes us back to the early days of our city, when behind it there extended open fields, and when its front windows looked upon a pleasant country lane. The lover of country life to-day finds a charm in the winding, narrow farmer's lane, that is rarely to be found in its more imposing neighbour, the wide straight high road. At every turn many of such lanes disclose fresh and unexpected beauties. Such was the case of the Long Millgate of long ago. In those days the dilapidated tumble-down buildings of to-day had a charm presented now by many a black-and-white Cheshire cottage. Perchance it stood before Hugh Oldham's Grammar School was built, and when, with the exception of the College and a few other

half timbered buildings it was divided from the town by cornfields and meadows. Now the charm and poetry associated with country life and scenes have departed, and like a worn out veteran, the house seems to stand superfluous on the scene. Pity that it should be so ; but its destruction and disappearance is only a matter of time.

A superficial examination will convince anyone that the building is of great age ; the date 1612 to be found in one of the rooms, referring probably to some alteration. There is a tradition to the effect that when Thomas de la Warre built the Collegiate Church, nearly five centuries ago, some of the timber taken from the preceding church was used in the erection of the building under notice. There is, however, no evidence that appears to give credence to such a theory. When it was first licensed is also doubtful, and up to less than seventy years ago it appears to have pursued the even tenour of its way. No famous person was born or died in its rooms, and in no way did it become notable until, under the regime of William Earnshaw, it suddenly became famous. In former days known as the " Rising Sun," it then became popular as the " Sun Inn " ; and of the house as it then appeared there is a delightful view on the title page of that rare little volume *The Festive Wreath*. In the view which is now reproduced we see over the leaded parlour-window the names of the proprietor, and over that again is a representation of the rising sun treated as a human face. Over the narrow doorway are the words " Poets' Corner," and beyond the inn we see the buildings that extended as far as the corner of Toad Lane. Standing

in front of the inn on the irregularly flagged footway are two college boys engaged in conversation with a gentleman whose beaver hat, cut-away coat, and knee breeches remind us of bygone days. Crossing the road are two Grammar School boys with flat caps and Eton coats; the whole picture being exceedingly interesting.

Passing through the doorway into the old building we find an interior equally quaint with the exterior; and its curious passages and small rooms, although very much dilapidated, are very worthy of a visit. The most interesting feature is a large room upstairs, where from time to time the bards of Cottonopolis were wont to meet. Those gatherings gave to the building the name of "Poets' Corner," which still clings to it. We will endeavour to trace in a few sentences the origin and nature of those gatherings.

In our last chapter we referred to Prince's removal to Long Millgate about the time that he was issuing his first volume of poems. We are told by one who knew him well, speaking of the "Poets' Corner" at the time, that "Here Prince was wont to indulge in his long clay pipe, seated in an easy armchair near the cheering fire; care and poverty it might be outside, but genial faces and warm hearts within—listening with quick appreciation to every 'quip and crank, nod and beck,' noting with approving smile every stroke of fun or play of fancy, and mellowing as the evening advanced into occasional recitation and song."

William Earnshaw, the landlord, was himself a scholar, and had the attainments of a gentleman. Small matter for wonder is it then that he and Prince

attracted to the quaint hostel a group of kindred spirits, men who found in literature that consolation that served to make more easy a lot not usually the most desirable. As with Dr. Johnson a number of generations before, so was it now with Prince. His chair was reserved for him, and his modest requirements were met by the generosity of friends and admirers. At length an effort was made to give a more definite and permanent form to the gatherings at the "Sun Inn," and in July, 1841, a circular was issued as follows:—

"Sir. At a preliminary meeting held at the above house, for the purpose of taking into consideration the practicability of forming an association for the purpose of advancing the cause of literature, the following propositions were suggested:—

1st.—That a Society be constituted, to be entitled 'The Literary Association,' for the protection and encouragement of British authors.

2nd.—That a certain number of gentlemen, known to be favourable to the promotion of literature, be invited to attend a meeting at the same place, on Wednesday, the 28th inst. at half past seven o'clock in the evening, at which meeting the nature and objects of the projected Society will be definitely brought forward and explained.

You having been named as one of the parties to be requested to attend, your company on the occasion is respectfully solicited. We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

JOHN KERSHAW. GEORGE RICHARDSON.

JOHN DICKINSON. JOHN BOLTON ROGERSON.

JOHN CRITCHLEY PRINCE."

As a result of the meeting frequent gatherings were held and a few special ones were arranged. The first of the latter took place on January 7th, 1842, in connection with which Earnshaw issued the following invitation :—

Sun Inn, Long Millgate,  
Manchester,

January, 1842.

“ Dear Sir,

It is proposed at the suggestion of a few gentlemen, admirers of the Manchester poets, that a friendly poetical soiree should be held at the Sun Inn, Long Millgate, on Friday, the 7th inst. A plain dinner will be provided at 3 o'clock precisely. Messrs. Charles Swain, J. C. Prince, J. B. Rogerson, Robert Rose, Samuel Bamford, etc. are expected to be present, and your company will be esteemed a favour by, dear sir, yours most respectfully,

WILLIAM EARNSHAW.”

The second gathering was held on March 24th, 1842, and the third one on July 26th. There is no record as to the total number of these gatherings, but they did not extend beyond 1843, for in that year Prince left Manchester, Rogerson was appointed registrar of the Harpurhey Cemetery, and Earnshaw became landlord of the Cemetery Inn. In this way the circle was broken up and the gatherings ceased ; not, however, before the proceedings had been permanently placed on record in a little volume bearing the title of *The Festive Wreath*, published by Bradshaw and Blacklock



in 1842. It has reference to the March meeting. The chair was occupied by J. B. Rogerson, R. Rose, the bard of colour, being vice-chairman. In all the company numbered about forty and during the evening many of those present read original contributions. These included J. C. Prince, R. Rose, J. B. Rogerson, G. Richardson, Scholes, J. Mills, R. Story, W. Gaspey, G. Ridings, R. W. Proctor, A. Wilson, B. Stott, J. Ball, J. Dent, W. Taylor and T. A. Tidmarsh. Communications were also read from Miss Isabella Varley (afterwards well known as Mrs. Banks, authoress of the *Manchester Man*), Mrs. Caulton, Mrs. E. S. Craven Green, and Miss Eliza Battya. The poems were afterwards published in a small volume bearing the title *The Festive Wreath*. The first poem in the rare little book is Prince's contribution, entitled *The Poet's Welcome*. The closing lines may be quoted :

" Welcome again to this our old retreat,  
This corner of antiquity ! This group  
Of wilding flowers which open to the night,  
Breathing the holy incense of high thought,  
May one day send its odours through the world."

A few brief notes concerning some of the authors will not be out of place. Robert Rose, a man of colour, published one volume of poems, *Gems of Thought*. John Bolton Rogerson was a poet of more than ordinary power. His principal works were *Rhyme, Romance, and Revelry*, 1840 ; *A Voice from the Town*, 1842 ; and *Musings in Many Moods*, 1859. He died in 1859. Elijah Ridings, a native of Failsworth, was notable not only for the efforts in rhyme, the most ambitious of which was the volume bearing the title *The Village*

*Muse*, but was notable as having been the last of the Manchester bellmen. George Richardson has been referred to in an earlier volume. John Scholes never attained to more than a very local fame. His dialect songs and stories were many, the longest being a description of a Lancashire man's adventures in the Crimean War, written for a Rochdale newspaper. Thomas Nicholson published several volumes. He became proficient in the French language, which he taught to a class of young men at the Ancoats Lyceum. Robert Story was the author of several popular and patriotic songs. His poems passed through several editions, and were praised by William Hone in his *Year Book*. These were some of the men who met for friendly converse at the Sun Inn when William Earnshaw was host. As previously stated, Earnshaw removed to Harpurhey in 1843, and the house fell back at once to the rank of an ordinary licensed house. Not only so, but in later years it ceased to be respectable, and ultimately the license was withdrawn. Since then it has had a chequered career, and each succeeding year has only seemed to increase its forlorn appearance. It is a pity that such should be the case, for few buildings that we possess have so fine a range of literary associations as has the "Poet's Corner." Literary London has its tradition of the "Mermaid," and its stories of the "Olde Chesshyre Cheese," "The Mitre," and the "Salutation and the Cat." We have our story of the "Sun Inn," and it would be a matter of satisfaction to many, if instead of being destroyed, it could be restored and put in a good state of repair.

## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART VIII.

#### FURTHER LITERARY ASSOCIATIONS.

##### CHARLES SWAIN.

At number 4 Every Street, Charles Swain, who was destined to become one of Lancashire's sweetest singers, was born on January 4th, 1801. His mother was the sister of Charles Tavaré, who had established a dye works in Canal Street, where Swain, his father having died, commenced work as a book-keeper at the age of fifteen. Leaving his uncle's employment he tried his luck at bookselling. After a two years' trial he gave it up, and turned his attention to engraving, purchasing Messrs. Lockett's business. His first place of business was in an old building near to "Poets' Corner," and since then pulled down. In his earlier years he lived in Ardwick, then a semi-rural district. Fields abounded, and one day as he was walking through some of them young Swain determined to write a poem in which some of the principal of Scott's characters should appear; and as a result he produced *Dryburgh Abbey*. The poem attracted considerable attention, and secured for the young poet the friendship of William Jordan, the editor of the *Literary Gazette*. Swain became a regular contributor to its columns, and had several offers to follow a literary career in

London. He had, however, made a wide range of friends in Manchester, and could not be persuaded to break the connection. His first appearance in print was in the *Manchester Iris* in 1822. Eight years later he published his greatest poem, *The Mind*, which was dedicated to Southey, at that time poet laureate. The two poets had become acquainted when Southey was in Manchester on a visit to the Rev. James White, incumbent of St. George's Church, who resided at Green Mount Place, Collyhurst; and who was brother to Kirke White. In 1833 Swain issued a prose memoir of another Ancoats worthy, Henry Liverseege, whose early death removed from Manchester one of the most promising artists she has produced. Swain died in 1874 and was buried in Prestwich churchyard. A fine portrait of him appears in Harland and Wilkinson's *Ballads and Songs of Lancashire*.

Swain's poems had many admirers in England and America. Southey said of him and his work: "If Manchester is not proud of him now, the time will come when it will be," and Nathaniel Hawthorne said that many of his songs were "household words" in the States. Needless to say he made the acquaintance of the poets who met at the "Poets' Corner," and a contribution by him appears in *The Festive Wreath*. For many years he was the chairman of the Gentlemen's Glee Club, at whose gatherings he delighted the members by his sparkling wit, and the happy manner in which he conducted the business of the gatherings. In his days he was the most popular chairman they had, and everyone else gave way so long as he could be prevailed upon to occupy the position. As a man he was

genial, kind hearted, and courteous; and as a conversationalist his keen but always kindly wit, and endless resources of information, caused him to have few equals in the social circles of the town in the forties and fifties.

WILLIAM HARRISON AINSWORTH.

The list of Long Millgate worthies would not be complete without a mention of William Harrison Ainsworth. Although he never lived within its precincts, much of his school life was passed there. It is not intended to give an outline of his career here, but merely to show his connection with the street. In the first Manchester directory is the entry "Ainsworth, Jeremiah, Teacher of the Mathematics, Long Millgate," and in the issue for 1773 we find that the house was numbered seventeen. It would be difficult to locate now the position of Mr. Ainsworth's house, but we know that he occupied a high position in the scholastic world of those days. He compiled a Latin dictionary, and was one of the most eminent mathematicians of his generation. We are told that he taught in his Lancashire School of Geometry "geometry, mensuration, land surveying, gauging, trigonometry, conic sections, astronomy, navigation, algebra, annuities for lives, fluxions, mechanics, etc., and every branch of the Newtonian philosophy."

Jeremiah Ainsworth's second son, Thomas, became a solicitor, and took an active part in towns affairs. His son William Harrison Ainsworth, was born in King Street, near to the Reference Library site. About twelve years afterwards the future novelist entered

the Grammar School, situated only a few yards from where, half a century before, his grandfather had taught mathematics. In *Mervyn Clitheroe* in later years he described the old school as it appeared in his days, and although we cannot regard him as an authority in the statement of historic facts, we may assume that in the present case his description would be tolerably accurate. He says the school was housed in "a large, dingy, smoke-begrimed brick building, with copings of stone, and had so many windows that it looked like a lantern. In front, between the angles of the pointed roof, was placed a stone effigy of the bird of wisdom, which seemed to gaze down at us with its great goggle eyes as we passed by, as if muttering 'Enter this academic abode over which I preside, and welcome; but you'll never come out as clever as I.'" For five years Ainsworth remained a pupil in the school, and in the novel referred to, published in 1851, and dedicated to his contemporaries at the school, he describes the masters, the internal arrangements of the school, the "tuck-shop" patronised by the boys, and the chronic feuds that existed between the Blue-coat boys and the Grammar School boys. Whilst at school and in the remaining years that preceded his removal to London, Ainsworth was a regular visitor to Chetham Hospital. He spent many hours in its quaint rooms, pondering over rare volumes belonging to its library, and, we are assured, wrote in one of the rooms, a portion, if not the whole, of one of his novels. Whether this was fact or not, the memory of the popular novelist will always be cherished by those connected with the two

great educational foundations whose homes are in Long Millgate.

THOMAS DE QUINCEY.

The opium eater, as de Quincey is called on many occasions, was a native of Manchester where his father, in partnership with a Mr. Duck, carried on business as a shipping merchant. His early childhood's days were spent at Greenhay, where his father died. The family afterwards left the town, but at the age of fifteen he returned, this time for the purpose of his education. A three years' course at the Grammar School had been decided upon by his guardians, and he tells us that on a day in the closing autumn of 1800 his first introduction to the school took place. Just as Ainsworth gives us a description of the building, so does de Quincey. In a few lines he tells us how the interior appeared to him more than a century ago. After noting the "ample proportions of the school-room," he says, "Beyond that nothing had been attempted, and the dreary expanse of whitewashed walls, that a small cost might have been embellished by plaster of Paris friezes and large medallions, illustrating to the eye of the youthful student the most memorable glorifications of literature—these were bare as the walls of a poorhouse or a lazaretto ; buildings whose functions as thoroughly sad and gloomy, the mind recoils from drawing into relief by sculpture and painting. But this building was dedicated to purposes that were noble. The naked walls clamoured for decoration."

The school building was of two stories, and de Quincey tells us that the floor of the lower school was considerably below the street level. In his day

the elder scholars, "those on the brink of manhood" were boarders at Mr. Lawson's house. This was the high master's house that formerly stood in Long Millgate, before the one now used for hotel purposes was built. Our essayist's descriptions of the school, the masters, the method of imparting knowledge are all equally interesting, and will be found in his *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*. The best passages are perhaps those in which he describes the closing hours of the day that preceded the one which he had chosen for his secret departure from the school, and his leaving the house wherein for less than two years he had been a resident. Thomas de Quincey rarely visited Manchester afterwards, and we have no record of his even having again entered within the precincts of the school.

More than fifty years later serious efforts were made to induce de Quincey to attend the annual Grammar School dinner. Not content with writing, a personal interview was arranged. The interviewers found him "in a house in the Canongate, Edinburgh, several stories from the ground, sitting in a flannel shirt and engaged in writing. His clothes were scattered about the room, and the MSS covered the table and floor. He was so engrossed that he took little interest in the news brought him by his friends . . . and said that he was busily engaged—in fact, he was in the 'throes of a new work,' which prevented him from attending to anything else." This was in 1857, and a further attempt was made in the following year. In his reply to the second invitation he refers to the Bishop of Chichester who had promised to attend, and who had been a schoolfellow of his. It is remarkable



that in his *Confessions*, de Quincey, describing some of his schoolfellows said of them : " But amongst such (literary) men I have found but three or four who had a knowledge which came as near to what I should consider comprehensive knowledge as really existed among these boys collectively." Then he goes on to single out A. T. Gilbert, who afterwards became Bishop of Chichester, and whom he was invited to meet at the dinner of 1858. It is a matter for regret that he could not accept the invitation. As it is, the authorities of the school cherish the memory of his connection with the institution, and his bust is there to remind the schoolboys of succeeding generations that de Quincey's name is on the roll of old scholars.



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART IX.

#### TOAD LANE OR TODD STREET.

Amongst Manchester street names few present more difficulties for solution as to their origin and meaning than does that of Toad Lane the former name for Todd Street. Recognising the fact that it was originally a country lane, some have suggested that in the days when the toad was regarded with superstitious eyes, a number of them made their homes in the hedge backing that fringed both sides of the lane. Another suggestion is that the lane became known as the "Old Lane," which in our dialect became perverted into "t'owd lane" and later into "Toad Lane." A third solution is suggested by an entry in the court leet records. In the entries for 1584 included amongst the list of officials appointed were "Birlamen" (or by-law men) for Mylnegate and Tod Lane. If this early spelling was correct, and not erroneous, the meaning of the name was fox lane. If such was the case either a fox had formerly his lair in the lane or very near to it, or one might have been run to earth there. I am afraid that all three suggestions fail in being entirely satisfactory, and having made note of them I will leave them for the reader to think out for himself. Other spellings of the name in the records are "Tode Lane," in 1587, "Toade Lane" in 1596, and "Toad Lane," in 1600.

Toad Lane gradually lost its rural aspect as the town extended, and the fields bounding were covered with houses. Most of these were small in size, and as though to make the most out of every yard of land the cottages were crowded close together, those on the back land being reached by narrow passages. In fact, such was the condition of the lane in 1821, when Parliamentary powers were obtained to widen and improve it, that one writer who knew it well said: "Toad Lane was one of the filthiest suburbs of the town, so confined that the winds of heaven could scarcely penetrate it." It is therefore not surprising to learn, that a few years later a sum of £1,401 was spent in widening and in other ways improving the thoroughfare.

One result of this improvement was the disappearance of Dangerous Corner. This was the corner of Long Millgate and Toad Lane. There stood at the corner, occupying a portion of the site of the Cathedral Schools, a public house known as the Griffin. The turn of the street was very abrupt and the street very narrow. Only one vehicle could pass at a time, and the bend of the lane prevented drivers from seeing what was coming in the opposite direction; the result being that many accidents took place. As we stand opposite the schools to-day and see the constant stream of traffic to and from Victoria Station, we realise how great has been the change in little more than seventy years. In the interval Corporation Street has been made. This so completely altered this portion of the city that some further description of the streets as they were prior to the change, is necessary. Hanging Ditch

extended, as it does to-day, from Cateaton Street to the corner of Fennel Street. Crossing over the end of that thoroughfare it continued its course but with the name of Toad Lane. About two hundred yards further on Toad Lane turned sharply to the left to Long Millgate. At the same point Clock Alley branched off to the right, and in direct continuation of the first portion of Toad Lane was Holdgate Street, which was a cul-de-sac, ending at the backs of the houses opening into Hanover street.

#### THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS.

The Cathedral Schools were built about three years after the widening of Toad Lane, the foundation stone being laid on September 14th, 1835, by John Bradshaw Wanklyn, the senior churchwarden. The plans were prepared by Richard Lane, a Manchester architect, and the schools were intended to accommodate about a thousand children. The laying of the foundation stone was a great event to the people of the district and the children connected with the former school that stood in Redfern Street were entertained to dinner. The first course of the dinner was a sheep that had been roasted whole, and this was followed by roast beef and plum pudding, the whole being accompanied by a supply of negus. Wheeler writing in 1842 says of the schools: "It is applied to the double use of a Sunday and Day school. For the latter purpose it has connected with it the Collegiate Church Charity School, which hitherto has been held in premises belonging to the charity, near the new school. A schoolroom and a residence for the teacher in the new erection will be

paid for out of the funds of the charity, which clothes sixty girls, and educates them in reading, religion, morals, and needlework. Its funds consist of about £52 14s. 3d. in chief rents, and £32, the rental of other premises in Fennel Street, and additional support is rendered to the school by the appropriation of one half of the offertory money, and the collections at the four festivals at the Collegiate Church." The charity school originated with Elizabeth Kirkham, who by will dated 1762, left £400, the interest of which was to go to the education of poor children. In 1773 Elizabeth Bent left £300 for the support of a teacher and the clothing of the children; and at later periods other endowments were left by Elizabeth Bennion and Rev. R. Kenyon. The school buildings originally stood in the churchyard, but in 1808 they were blown down and were not rebuilt. Mrs. Kirkham's endowment was lost early in the last century as a result of injudicious investment by the trustee. Mrs. Bennion's endowment consisted of property situated at the corner of Half Street and Fennel Street. In 1824 the Charity School was held in 12 Fennel Street, but soon afterwards it was removed to Redfern Street, Miller Street. The charity now produces £76 7s. 2d. per annum, and is distributed by the Dean, Canons, and Wardens of the Cathedral.

#### THE FOUNDRESS OF THE SHAKERS.

Ann Lee, who originated the sect known as the Shakers, was born in Toad Lane in 1736. Her father was a blacksmith and as was usual in those days, Ann received no schooling. She was put to work early,

one of her situations being that of cook at the Infirmary. She married a man of the name of Stanley, by whom she had four children, all of whom died in infancy. Early in life she joined a tailor named Wardley, who with his wife and a number of others had seceded from the Quakers on doctrinal grounds. One of the principal articles of their belief was the imminence of the second coming of Christ, and in view of this event they often feigned fits of trembling at their services, and as a result came to be known as the Shaky Quakers or the Shakers. Another feature of their faith was a belief in celibacy as the holy state of life. As a result Ann separated from her husband, although in later years they again re-united. She preached celibacy and as a result was imprisoned on a charge of Sabbath breaking. She stated that whilst in prison Christ appeared to her, and became one with her in form and spirit. Her followers stated on the other hand that at one period of her imprisonment she was kept without food for a fortnight except such as could be conveyed through the keyhole by means of a tobacco pipe. On many occasions she was imprisoned for preaching her peculiar doctrines, and once she had the temerity to intervene during service at the Collegiate Church, for which she was fined £20, and failing to pay the sum, was again imprisoned. As a result of her professed revelations from Christ, a number of persons who claimed to be converts greeted her as "the Lamb's bride." Soon afterwards she along with her husband and a number of followers, emigrated to America and settled at Water Vliet in New York. When the war of Independence broke out she and her followers refused to

take up arms, and were, as a result, imprisoned. She died on September 8th, 1784. Many years after her death the "United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing," as the members of the body call themselves, adopted the principles of communism; which to-day are scrupulously observed by the followers of Ann Lee.

Prior to the alterations in 1832 there were in Toad Lane quite a large number of licensed houses, and as late as 1840 there were three fully licensed houses and three beer retailers out of twenty tenements. At one of them, the White Lion, Ben Lang commenced business. In later years he was landlord of the Trafford, one of the quaint houses that formerly extended from Cateaton Street to Salford Bridge and which were removed when Victoria Street was made. After this second removal he was landlord of the house that overhanging the river, occupied a portion of the site of the Grosvenor Hotel, and was the scene of the terrible disaster mentioned in a previous volume. Near neighbours of Lang in Todd Street in 1838 were Mary Cowburn & Son, carriage builders. In 1824 Anthony Cowburn was the proprietor, he having just founded the business. He lived at the time at 4 Oldham Road, where he also kept a shop. Another of Lang's neighbours might be mentioned. At number 4 William Hassall carried on a salt business. To-day his grandson, Thomas Hassall, carries on the same business now situated in Ducie Street, Piccadilly. Mr. Hassall is one of the representatives of St. Clement's Ward in the City Council.

## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART X.

#### MILLER'S LANE OR MILLER STREET.

Miller's Lane, as Miller Street was formerly called, was one of the old thoroughfares of the town more than three centuries ago, for we read in the Court Leet records that in 1582 Arthur Kershaw claimed the title to some portion of it, but the jury decided that "the said lane is wholly pertaining to the lord of the manor, and is to be used for the benefit of the neighbours of the town, as it hath been accustomed." Thus we find that the lane has existed since before the days of Queen Elizabeth. In 1588 Robert Verey, whose house probably stood in Shudehill, was ordered by the Court to remove a privy which he had placed at the bottom of his orchard, because the same "is very noisome to passengers." A case of land enclosing or grabbing was dealt with by the Court of October 13th, 1588, when it was announced that "William Byrche not having taken down his encroachment in the Mylner's Lane, hath forfeited thirty shillings to the lord." The jury ordered further that the enclosure must be taken down before the next Court, "or the jury shall of themselves pull down the same."

On Casson and Berry's map the thoroughfare is named Mill Lane, and it is depicted as a country lane



fringed on both sides by hedgerows, whilst at intervals overhanging trees added to its rural aspect. Houses had been built at the four corners of the lane, and about half way up a group of about half a dozen cottages, with a house of more imposing dimensions standing close by, completed the list of buildings in the lane a century and sixty years ago. Up to this period the appearance of the lane had not changed materially from what it must have been when Elizabeth was Queen. The succeeding fifty years, however, saw great changes. In the course of that time not only was the name changed and Miller's Lane became Miller Street, but much of the available land was built upon. Turning up the street out of Long Millgate most of the land on the left hand side had been covered and Blackley Street, Beswick's Row and several other secondary streets had been formed. Near the top, on the left hand side, was Simpson's factory, adjacent to which was a lodge forming the water supply for the mill. On the opposite side of the street very little building had taken place, but the buildings previously mentioned are marked alms-houses. The remaining land on either side of the buildings was still open. For a few years no further change of importance took place but early in the next century the thoroughfare was completely built up.

#### THE ALMS HOUSES.

The alms houses were six in number, and were connected with the Mayes Charity, founded in 1621 by Edward Mayes, whose memory is perpetuated by the Charity bearing his name and the street names of

Mayes Street and Back Mayes Street. Edward Mayes in his will bequeathed £120 to be employed in the purchase of land, or to be otherwise profitably invested for the use of the poor of Manchester, to whom the income was to be distributed according to the discretion of the churchwardens and others on Good Friday in every year. The money was invested in the purchase of about four acres of land in Miller's Lane together with a row of cottages. These were altered and extended until ultimately they provided accommodation for some twenty families. The almshouses were so constructed that each family had a separate entrance to its own apartments and each house was furnished with a garden. This arrangement was all right so long as Miller's Lane was a rural thoroughfare and land was cheap. When, about a century ago, the growth of the town caused all field land hereabouts to be bought up and covered with bricks and mortar, matters changed somewhat. The first change came when Edward Street was made in 1807, when several of the houses were pulled down. The gardens had gone, and the field land also had been sold on chief. In 1808 the tenants of the remaining houses received notice to quit, but they refused to move. The roofs were removed, and some of the walls were pulled down, but the occupiers still refused to move. At length the arrangement was arrived at whereby in the cases of deserving families the rents of other tenements were to be paid for them out of the funds of the charity ; and very soon the buildings were swept away. In front of the almshouses there stood a large stone bearing a Latin inscription. After being

lost to sight for many years this was found by the late Alderman H. Rawson in one of the cellars of the Art Gallery. The income of the charity to-day is £479 per annum.

#### AN EARLY INCORPORATION SCHEME.

In 1763, consequent upon the unsatisfactory state of local government in the town, a scheme for incorporation was set on foot. Application was to be made for a charter of incorporation and the government of Manchester, was under it, to be vested in a specially appointed committee consisting of High Churchmen, Moderate Churchmen, and Dissenters, each section of the community being entitled to elect one third of the members. In connection with the movement a range of buildings intended to serve the double purpose of a workhouse and prison was commenced on the plot of land at the corner of Miller's Lane and Shudehill. One side of the intended quadrangle had been nearly completed when the scheme collapsed and the unfinished and unpaid for buildings were left. It was not long before a number of families, seeing the opportunity for living rent free, entered into possession, and having completed them in rough fashion, lived there until the buildings were pulled down by the land owner. The story of how the scheme of incorporation was killed furnishes strong evidence of the intensity of political feeling in those days. The proposal was accepted by all parties, and the support of the Government had been assured, when a member of the High Church party anticipated that in every case where a division occurred amongst the members of the

proposed committee the Dissenters would support the Moderate Churchmen, thereby securing and holding all power in their joint hands. The High Church, or as it was in later years called, the Church and King party, claiming for themselves the premier positions in all matters of power in the town, therefore determined to withdraw their support, and offered it their most determined opposition ; with the result that the scheme was killed. The victors held a meeting to celebrate their victory, and for several years held a demonstration on the anniversary. This consisted of a grand procession to Chorlton, which came to be known as the Chorlton Rant. As a result of the High Church party's success the agitation in favour of municipal reform was abandoned ; and when, seventy years later, the Charter was secured, it was in opposition to the grandsons of and successors to the High Churchmen of 1763.

#### OUR FIRST STEAM DRIVEN COTTON MILL.

On a piece of land in Miller's Lane, nearly opposite to the almshouses, there was erected in 1783 Manchester's first steam driven cotton mill. Richard Arkwright, who after commencing life as a barber who made a special feature of a "halfpenny shave," became associated with cotton spinning, amassed a great fortune, and was knighted by the king. This is not the place in which to discuss his claims as an inventor, nor as to how far he was indebted to others for his ideas. For us it is sufficient to know that he was responsible for the erection of the first steam driven cotton mill built in Manchester. The building was thus described by a contemporary.

“On the right hand is a firm built and capital engine house in which the floor beams are all made to spring against their own length and the incumbent weight, by first sawing strong deal baulks through the middle, and letting in oak spars to spurt at obtuse angles upward, the divided baulks being then screwed together with iron pins, so as to resist the pressure above. Here it is that Mr. Arkwright’s machines are setting to work by a steam engine for cording and spinning of cotton.” Factory Yard marks the site of the mill.

JOHN MASSEY, COMPOSER AND TEACHER.

For many years John Massey, a musician of no mean powers, struggled through a miserable existence in a cottage number 2 Back Mayes Street. He was born in Long Millgate on January 29th, 1774. Of humble parentage, he was placed as a youth with a local builder, and for many years was employed by John Wallis, whose place of business was in Miller Street. Massey was passionately fond of music, and in his younger days he devoted the whole of his spare time to its study. Becoming proficient, and finding that work as a carpenter was scarce, he sought to increase his income by giving music lessons. His charge of sixpence per lesson, although perhaps as much as most of his pupils could afford to pay, did not very considerably increase his income. He struggled on manfully, brought up a family of three sons and a daughter, but never made more than a bare pittance by his industry. His singing class was the best one in the town, and many of his pupils achieved a local fame. Not only did he teach singing and music, but he composed a number

of psalm and hymn tunes, about half a score of which may be found in Holford's *Voce le Melodia*. After the marriage of his daughter, being in declining health and troubled with a defective memory, he sought the shelter of the workhouse. There he found in music his only solace, and week by week he took his place in the choir of the workhouse chapel. With his violin-cello as his companion he passed away the time until December 6th, 1841, when he died. He was buried in the graveyard of St. Mark's Church, Cheetham Hill.

#### BAXENDALE & CO.

##### A FIRM WITH A REMARKABLE STORY.

No account of the growth of Miller Street would be complete that did not include the story of the growth of the business known not only locally, but in all parts of the world, as Baxendales. From a very modest beginning in one small building it has grown to such an extent as not only to be by far the most important business concern in this part of the city; but the premises have been extended to such a degree that huge blocks of buildings on both sides of the street are now necessary in order to carry on the multifarious departments of trade in which the firm is engaged. This was illustrated one day when the street being blocked on account of loading and unloading operations being carried on at Baxendale's premises on both sides of the thoroughfare a stranded cabby growled, "They ought to call this Baxendale Street and not Miller Street."

Laban Baxendale, the founder of the firm, was born in 1832. In 1860 he was employed as a glass cutter

by a small firm of sheet-glass merchants in Manchester, who dismissed him when he asked to be admitted a partner. Undaunted, he interviewed Messrs. Pilkington Brothers, of St. Helens, whose assistance he sought to enable him to begin business. A credit of £100 was granted, and the firm of Laban Baxendale started in Hanover Street. A few years later Baxendale was joined in partnership by Henry Gordon and Charles Darrah, the title of the firm becoming Baxendale & Co. Mr. Gordon undertook the travelling, Mr. Darrah took charge of the counting house, and Mr. Baxendale took over the buying and general management.

In 1867 a move was made to Miller Street, where one of the present buildings was occupied. Three years later another building on the opposite side of the street, and now used as the Ironmongery department was taken. In 1870 the street was mostly occupied by Marine Store dealers, and old building material brokers, whilst at the corner of Factory Yard stood the old mill previously referred to. A few years before the place had been burned down. The fire took place in the winter, and so severe was the cold that the water poured on to the building became frozen, and for days the front was one mass of icicles. At the opposite corner of Factory Lane were the Public Baths and Wash Houses. Dantzic Street consisted principally of small shops, but the general appearance of this and Miller Street was changed considerably by Messrs. Peverley and Blakey, who added to the business of Leather Merchants that of speculative Builders. Buying up block after block of property they replaced the small tenements with large warehouses. On the site of

the Public Baths they built a block of buildings, which were afterwards bought by Baxendale & Co. and called Victoria Buildings. From time to time other extensions were made by Baxendales, additional buildings being taken over or erected. In 1887 a Scotch branch was opened in Hanover Street, Edinburgh, but a year later Mr. Gordon retired from the firm, and settled on a small estate in the Isle of Man. In 1892 a branch was opened in Liverpool, which was afterwards allotted to a son of Mr. Baxendale. In 1898 Mr. Darrah's eldest son, Charles, was admitted to a partnership in the concern, and since then his other sons have succeeded to a share in the business, which is now entirely in their control. Mr. Darrah, senior, died in 1902, and Mr. Baxendale in 1908. Needless to say both were fine business men.

The lead works of the firm were formerly situated in Gaythorn, but in 1902 a move was made to Trafford Park, where the finest and best equipped works of the kind in the country were erected.

To give a list of the various departments is impossible, and it is therefore only necessary to say that the supply of everything relating either to the fabric of buildings or the furnishing of the same come within the sphere of their operations. It may be further stated that whereas the firm had forty employees when the move to Miller Street was made, the staff of travellers now numbers 39, the other members of the staff number about 1000, and that each morning 45 carts and luries are loaded with goods for delivery in the surrounding towns, and each night many are loaded with goods for more remote country districts.



## LONG MILLGATE.

### PART XI.

#### A FEW LANDMARKS.

##### ASHLEY LANE.

An early mention of Ashley Lane is contained in the report of the proceedings of the Court Leet held on April 24th, 1595 when report was made that "Randall Massye hath made and stopped up a stile in a usual way lying by Ashley-lane to the hindrance of the passengers both to the church and the market." The Court ordered that the stile should be "laid open" before June 4th. The stile referred to would be connected with a field path running into the lane, the closing of which would greatly inconvenience the cottagers whose nearest way to town it was.

Coming down to the end of the eighteenth century we may note one or two facts as to this portion of the town. Lament's plan gives us Ashley Street running from the end of Long Millgate to the corner of Angel Street, when it becomes Ashley Lane. If instead of veering to the right we turn to the left at the end of Long Millgate, Smithy Lane would lead to Scotland Bridge and the cottages known as Gibraltar. Beyond Scotland Bridge was Red Bank, with no building on it other than Peel Farm, for a distance of half a mile. Open fields abounded, although a portion of the land

on the right hand side of the lane was laid out for building upon. Ashley Lane was a country lane. Just as the lane was entered, at the corner of Angel Street, between the lane and the church, was a piece of field land ; and a few yards further on was the new burial ground, which is marked on the plan as being crossed by two footpaths. Several streets had been laid out, although the land from Irk Street to Bilsborough Street was unbuilt upon, and the lane was bounded on one side by a row of trees. Less than half a mile from the corner of Angel Street, Travis Mill stood on the bank of a diversion of the Irk, and surrounded as it was with gardens, fields and plantations, it must have been a delightful spot. Near by on the opposite side of Ashley Lane was a building with the curious name of Hell Bank.

#### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

The church dedicated to St. Michael, now standing in the centre of what is perhaps the most undesirable part of the city, was built in 1788 by the Rev. H. Owen, M.A., who was one of the chaplains of the Collegiate Church, and in whose family the presentation was fixed for a period of sixty years ; after which the right of election to the living became vested in the Wardens and Fellows of the Collegiate Church, now represented by the Dean and Canons. Aston says of the building that " It is a large brick building, nothing remarkable in any point, either on the outside or inside, except it be for some colossal saints, which outrage nature from the communion recess, and which seem as if they had emanated from a painter who had the fear

of breaking the second commandment full in his eyes." The same writer says: "The burial place belonging to this church is tolerably large; but it is also adjoining to what is known as the 'New Burial Ground,' which is the largest cemetery in the town, and is appropriated to the interment of poor persons who have no family place of burial. It is attached to the mother church, where the register is kept; but the service is performed by the minister of St. Michael's. The number of poor persons who are continually dying in Manchester must be great, and an expeditious and economical method of interring the bodies of the dead has been adopted. A very large grave, or, more properly, a pit, for the reception of mortality is digged, and covered up (when not in use for depositing the remains of the dead) with planks, which are locked down in the night, until the whole is filled with coffins piled besides and upon each other. The cavern of death is then closed, and covered up with earth, and another pit is prepared and filled in the same manner. The cemetery was consecrated by the Bishop of Chester on September 21st, 1787, since which many thousand bodies have been interred in this singular depot (it might almost be said, magazine) of mortality." Small wonder is it that the cemetery became rapidly filled up, and in 1816 it was closed for such purposes.

At that time the Rev. Miles Wrigley was the incumbent. He died in 1821, aged 75 years, having held the living for twenty-eight years. He was succeeded by the Rev. William Marsden, who afterwards became vicar of Eccles. His brother, George, was a popular preacher amongst the Wesleyans, and was

one of the first preachers in the Great Bridgewater Street Chapel.

When the burial ground was closed in 1816, Ashley Lane, to a point beyond the burial ground, was quite open, the first buildings being some houses in Irk Street. Before another ten years had passed all the available land had been covered, and the opening of the dark period in the history of this portion of the town was close at hand. The change from open country to slums was carried out with almost startling rapidity in the Ashley Lane district.

#### GIBRALTAR.

Gibraltar is now little more than a name. A century ago it was a place of some note. A local writer said in 1804 "Such as delight in the picturesque would be paid for their trouble if they were to examine that part of Manchester called Gibraltar, a labyrinth of cottages situated on the banks of the Irk near Scotland Bridge and the home scenery of that river, particularly near the corn mills and the back part of the college." So much for 1804. Let us now turn to 1832, only twenty-eight years later, when Dr. Kay described Gibraltar. "Immediately beneath Ducie Bridge in a deep hollow between two high banks, the Irk sweeps round a large cluster of some of the most dilapidated buildings in the town. The course of the river is here impeded by a weir, and a large tannery, eight storeys high (three of which storeys are filled with skins exposed to the atmosphere) towers close to this labyrinth of dwellings. The group of dwellings is called Gibraltar." By this time all signs of the picturesque had

vanished, never to return, for change it ever so much this district will never again be a beauty spot. From 1832 the condition of "Gib." fell lower and lower, until thirty years ago it had apparently reached the lowest possible level. Since then railway extensions and other alterations have displaced many of the houses, and to-day little of the old remains. There has been a good deal of discussion as to when and how the place name Gibraltar came into vogue. Nothing very definite can be said in reply to either question. The earliest reference that we can find is in 1771 when four houses lying "in a place called Gibraltar" were offered for sale by public auction; and it is thought that the district received its name from the fact that so many Manchester men took part in the siege of Gibraltar, and in the same way that many other places were called by such names as Waterloo and Inkerman. In one of the buildings removed in consequence of the railway extensions, was some very fine timber work. On the lintel of one of the doorways was to be seen the date 1668, and over a door in an adjoining house was the date 1686.



## SCOTLAND AND RED BANK.

Another place name, the origin of which is shrouded in mystery, is that of Scotland. It certainly is very old for in 1762 a messuage divided into two dwellings situated "in Manchester, at a place called Scotland" was advertised to be let at a yearly rental of ten guineas. Scotland, like Gibraltar, has suffered from alterations, and it seems probable that in the course of another generation it will have entirely disappeared. The removal of the remaining tenements would not be regretted by those concerned in the well-being of our city. The name of Scotland Bridge appears on the plan of 1650, as also does the name of Red Bank. Red Bank is probably one of our very old street or place names for in the Court Leet records for 1573 is an entry which apparently has reference to it. At the Court held on September 20th in that year we find an entry which when modernised reads: "Whereas Richard Marsland hath caused the water that cometh forth of his fold to be turned out of its right course; by reason whereof the highway commonly called the Red Bank is sore impaired; which, if it should continue, would be utterly marred, Richard shall see the water to be turned into its right course, and so to continue." The penalty imposed for further offence was 3s. 4d., one half of which was to go to the lord of the manor and the other half to the poor of the town. The records of the district present little matter worthy

of note, but reference must be made to two residents who in their day did good service to the community. The first of these is Job Hindley.

JOB HINDLEY.

Hindley was the son of working people, and commenced life in the fashion usual to most people. As a youth he met with a misfortune that would have had disastrous results in many cases, but which in Hindley's case seemed only to act as an incentive to increased effort. Whilst working for Messrs. Heywood and Eyres, calenderers, of Stable Street; afterwards Tib Street, he lost his right arm, and was, as a result, compelled to change his occupation. He adopted the trade of a tripe dresser and was successful in business. Gradually he accumulated money until, finding himself in the possession of a thousand pounds, he gave it to the Infirmary in recognition of the services rendered when his arm was amputated. At this time, and for the greater portion of his life, he lived in the neighbourhood of Red Bank, occupying a house in Brighton Street for many years. His next notable act of generosity was the presentation of five hundred pounds to the National Lifeboat Institution for the purchase of a lifeboat. These acts were only typical of the everyday life the donor pursued, for his purse was always at the disposal of the unfortunate amongst his poor neighbours. The result was that he was exceedingly popular in the Long Millgate district, and great were the rejoicings when on Friday, December 19th, 1873 a public acknowledgment of his benefactions was made at the Town Hall. On that same day the

lifeboat, accompanied by a band and decorated with flags, was drawn along Long Millgate and Red Bank. A year later, on March 18th, 1874, Hindley died at Southport. Just prior to his death he received the welcome information that the lifeboat bearing his name had saved eleven sailors from a watery grave, and promptly sent the sum of four pounds to be divided amongst the crew of the lifeboat. In addition to the benefactions given during his lifetime, he left in his will legacies to public charities amounting to nearly three thousand pounds.

EDWARD MEACHAM, SURGEON.

For thirty years Mr. Edward Meacham gave the best of his efforts to the benefit of the poor residents of Red Bank. In his early years Meacham joined the army, serving for some time in the eighty-first regiment of Foot. Coming to Manchester about 1846 he was appointed labour master at the Chorlton Union. This brought him and his wife in daily contact with the poorest of the poor, and in the hope of rendering greater services to his unfortunate fellow citizens he commenced the study of medicine, ultimately taking his degree as a surgeon. In 1864 he was appointed medical officer for the St. George's district by the Manchester Board of Guardians. Taking up his residence in Red Bank he soon commenced the Red Bank Medical Mission, afterwards known as the Manchester Medical Mission and Dispensary. For thirty years Mr. Meacham was daily in attendance at the Mission rooms, ministering alike to the bodies and souls of his poor neighbours. His concern for the children was deep seated,



and a large proportion of a salary that was never a big one went to help the more helpless amongst them. His efforts to wean many of the victims of drink from their ways were constant and untiring ; and when after many failures he would endeavour to persuade one more than usually unfortunate to reform he would say as a reason for his renewed efforts, " They know not what they do ! I will try again." After serving as Medical Officer for thirty years, he was pensioned off with £110 per annum. His health had broken down under the strain of unremitting labour, and his friends endeavoured to persuade him to retire to Southport ; but his feeling was that his presence was necessary amongst the poor of Red Bank. Consequently he remained there working to the end. In October, 1897 Mr. and Mrs. Meacham celebrated their golden wedding, but although the health of both was fairly good on the anniversary day, in a month they were both dead. He died on September 18th, 1897, aged seventy-four, and was buried at Harpurhey Cemetery. Mrs. Meacham died on September 22nd, aged seventy-six, she never having rallied after the shock produced by her husband's death. The Medical Mission was afterwards taken over by the managers of the Charter Street Ragged School, of which institution it is now an important branch.



## BALLOON STREET.

### A GREAT COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING.

#### THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

In a previous chapter reference has been made to Sadler's balloon ascent in 1785 from the field at the back of the present "Manchester Arms." On that field were built the houses that formed Balloon and Back Balloon Streets. The building operations must have commenced very soon after Sadler's visit, for although there is no mention of either street in the directory for 1788, not only are both marked on Laurent's map for 1793, but both seem to have been almost fully built up. There is little worthy of note in the annals of Balloon Street until the Co-operative Wholesale Society took possession of a building there. Since that date the "Wholesale" has developed to such an extent as to mark it out as one of the most important commercial undertakings associated with our city.

After working for a short time from an office the Wholesale Society took possession in 1868 of a small warehouse in Balloon Street. The movement was a natural evolution of that co-operative system which had originated about twenty years before in Rochdale. The idea was that by extending the principle of co-operation, the various societies by combining together

---

might save intermediate profits in some cases, and in others might act as importers, growers or manufacturers. As showing how modest were the earliest operations of the Society it is only necessary to point out that during its first complete year, that of 1865, the total sales only reached £120,754. A year later the policy of buying direct from the producer was first tried, and a depot was established at Tipperary for the purchase of Irish dairy produce. In 1872 a branch was opened at Newcastle, and two years later a London Branch was commenced, the object being to encourage the development of co-operative societies in the north and south of England. In 1876 another important move was made. As the trade of the Society increased, the demand for continental produce grew, and in 1876 a small vessel was purchased. This was succeeded in 1879 by the building of the "Pioneer," a small steamer. Another stage in the period of evolution through which the Society has passed was marked in 1887 when a woollen cloth mill at Batley was purchased, and since then scarcely a year has passed without the record of some proof of further development being recorded. Take, for instance, the tremendous changes that have taken place in the neighbourhood since 1864. The result of these changes is that the modest warehouse of 1864 is represented now by a series of fine buildings covering an extensive area, and finding employment for a great army of workers. The most recent addition to the "Co-operative Wholesale" buildings is a fine block facing Corporation Street, which is intended to find accommodation for the administrative branch of the work of the Society. The building is considered

by authorities to be one of the finest of its kind in the city, and has improved the appearance of a district which hitherto has not been notable from an artistic standpoint.

A few additional facts may be quoted. The opening of the branches at Newcastle and London has been noted. To-day there are ten such depots scattered over various parts of the country, where large stocks are kept for the convenience of local societies. The membership of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, it may be said, is rigidly confined to societies, each of which is represented at the quarterly meeting of delegates. The Tipperary experiment proved so successful that now the Society has four Irish depots, connected with which are thirty-eight creameries ; in addition to nineteen depots for the forwarding of similar produce on the continent, in Canada, the United States, and in Australia. The small vessel purchased in 1876 is represented to-day by a fleet of six steamers, constantly engaged in the Society's interests. In combination with the Scottish Wholesale Society, the Manchester Society owns two tea plantations in Ceylon. Flour mills at Dunston-on-Tyne, Silvertown (on the Thames), Rochdale, Oldham, and on the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal are kept busy meeting the demands for flour made by over eleven hundred co-operative societies scattered over every part of the country. An oil and tallow works at Sydney in New South Wales enables the Society to procure at the minimum cost the raw materials required at their soap works at Irlam. Boots and shoes are made by the Society at Leicester, Enderby, Rushden and

Heckmondwike, where 3,200 persons are employed at an annual cost in wages of £165,000. As showing the scale on which the Society transacts its operations, it may be mentioned that it spends annually in Denmark in the purchase of dairy produce over £3,000,000. Furniture is made at Broughton, where also are tailoring, mantle, underclothing, and other factories. Cocoa works at Luton, biscuit works at Crumpsall, pickle and preserve works at Middleton, clothing factories at Leeds, a tobacco factory at Manchester, printing works at Longsight, a corset factory at Desborough, a hosiery warehouse at Leicester, and tomato houses at Roden, are amongst the other institutions controlled by the Society.

The expansion in the operations of the Co-operative Wholesale will be best illustrated by a few figures showing their sales at various periods during the last forty years. The sales for 1865 were £120,754 and ten years later they were £2,247,395; a tremendous increase, accounted for partly by the number of local societies who gradually became associated with the Wholesale. The growth during the next ten years was even greater, for in 1885 the sales exceeded four and three-quarter millions. The next decade was marked by the same steady progress, and in 1895 for the first time the year's sales reached £10,000,000. That finality had not been reached was shown a year later, when the Society's operations increased by another million, and this average increase was recorded year by year until 1905, when the total for the year was £20,785,000. When we compare this with the figures for 1865 we fully realise how tremendous has

been the growth of the movement during the intervening forty years. It is not necessary to be a co-operator, or a believer in the principles of co-operation, in order to realise how important a factor the Co-operative Wholesale Society is in a great commercial city. As ratepayers and employers of labour the Society ranks high in the lists of our commercial undertakings.



## CHARTER STREET RAGGED SCHOOL.

The story of the district around Long Millgate and Angel Meadow would not be complete without a reference to the efforts made by a band of workers connected with the Charter Street Ragged School for the uplifting of those whom circumstances compel to reside amidst such surroundings. In earlier chapters mention has been made of the fields and gardens that abounded on all sides of Long Millgate a century ago ; and in one or two cases we have traced the rapid advance of bricks and mortar over the whole district. In the Charter Street district the growth was particularly rapid. At the opening of the last century Blackley Street, as Charter Street was then known, was quite built up, but in Ashley Lane at the one end and in Miller's Lane at the other, open fields were still to be found. With the beginning of the century the change for the worse in the district was very marked, and for several generations this process seems to have gone on until, half way through the century, not only was every trace of rural life gone, but the area was covered with some of the worst property in the town. Like a huge rabbit warren it was threaded by a number of narrow and dark passages and streets, which gave every facility for the wrong-doer to evade capture. The result was that Charter Street and Angel Meadow ranked along with Deansgate as the haunt of the low, the idle, and the vicious. It was not safe for respectably

dressed persons to pass through the streets alone, even at mid day ; and many who as a result of either ignorance or bravado attempted to do so paid the penalty by being knocked down, otherwise assaulted, and robbed. Bad as it was during the day time, it was ten times worse by night ; when many who dared not be seen abroad in broad daylight, would venture forth in search of victims. The record of Charter Street and Angel Meadow in the fifties and sixties was a terrible one. So bad was the district that teachers and others who gave their services in connection with the ragged schools were for some time escorted to and from school by the police. If there was any part of the town that seemed to demand the attention of social reformers more than another it was the Charter Street district. The first move in this direction was made about 1850, when a school was opened to find employment for some of the boys living in the district. The effort was not at first made on a large scale. A little education and work was found for those who applied for them. One of these, a waif, commenced his life's work there. His first work was picking bristles, which he took to Rushworth's brush maker's shop in Shudehill. Having no home he slept at night anywhere, but often in a cellar still to be seen in Charter Street. The school commenced in Nelson Street off Blackley Street, and was moved afterwards to St. John's Parade, where it occupied premises now known as the Night Asylum. Miss Ather-ton, who lived in Quay Street, was a benefactor to the school, and left money to build the premises on Ardwick Green. Such was the origin and early development of what are now known as the Industrial Schools.



Another similar movement began in Mayes Street. It received valuable support from Sir. W. H. Houldsworth, Herbert Philips, Thomas Wright, and a number of other philanthropic citizens. It developed on somewhat different lines and ultimately came to be known as the Manchester and Salford Reformatory.

The third reclamation movement that should be mentioned is the one still associated with the district, and known as the "Charter Street Ragged School, Working Girls' Home, and Manchester Medical Mission." Like the previously mentioned movements it began on very humble lines. Meetings were held on Sundays and week-nights in a waste warehouse in Mayes Street, but a move was made in 1861 to the premises previously mentioned in Nelson Street. A few extracts from the second annual report will be of interest. The committee say :—" Entering upon our third year, we fairly consider ourselves firmly established as a Ragged School. Many of the difficulties which beset our path and troubled us at first have disappeared. We are becoming known in the neighbourhood, and the good influence of our labours felt."

"The former history of our School is fast being forgotten—once known as the meeting house of thieves, the rendezvous of prostitutes, and as the dancing room, the free and easy, into which the youth of our schools were entrapped and ruined. As such it is now known no more, and we trust that never again will it gain such a notoriety and be so used." In the report we find that the average attendance at the afternoon school was 148, and at the evening school 241. In addition to this there were infant classes and

adult classes. The latter were the outcome of a serious effort to arouse the interest of the parents of the children ; and at first the classes were known as the Fathers' and Mothers' Classes. The experiment early proved successful, and good attendances were recorded week by week. The week-night classes do not seem to have been so successful. The reading and news room was well attended, and complaint was made that the available space was too limited. A Band of Hope, a savings bank, and a library were in full operation ; and special reference is made to the Nelson Street soup kitchen. In common with all parts of the cotton manufacturing districts, Angel Meadow and the neighbouring streets were feeling the pinch resulting from what was known as the "cotton famine." In order to prevent, as far as possible, imposition, a charge of a half-penny per quart was made for the soup. The work was continued for three months, at the end of which time relief committees on a large scale were formed to combat the distress and suffering that existed in every part of the city. The quantity of soup distributed in the course of the three months was nearly 20,000 quarts, the cost being £102. The treasurer's cash account for the year showed that £94 had been spent, but only about £65 had been received. In the balance sheet mention is made of the Christmas Breakfast, which has always been a feature of the work done at Charter Street. The officers for the year 1863 were Superintendent, Mr. J. B. Rowcliffe ; Tresurer, Mr. James Rutter ; Secretary, Mr. Geo. Harker, in addition to the Trustees, Messrs. H. Everton, James Ward and

John Renton. In time the building was purchased. As the work progressed, new and more extensive premises became necessary, and in 1870 a bazaar was held by which £2000 was raised. A piece of land that had been used as a timber yard was secured, and building operations were commenced, Lord Shaftesbury laying the foundation stone. That building has since been replaced by the splendid pile that now overshadows the lower end of the street.

To attempt to explain in detail the work now done in connection with the institutions is entirely beyond our limitations. Charter Street Ragged School is full of meaning to thousands of children who live in the slums thereabouts. Almost every branch of social work is undertaken, and a large share of success crowns the efforts of the workers. One branch of the work that demands special notice is the Working Girls' Home, which provides a home for many girls who otherwise would be compelled to live amidst the worst possible surroundings. By paying a small sum weekly these girls obtain a bedroom and the use of a kitchen and sitting room, games and a library, a piano and baths, in addition to other advantages. The treats of various kinds given to the children and the old people of the neighbourhood ; the various classes that meet night by night ; the Medical Mission that deals with nearly three thousand cases of sickness annually ; the Sunday Schools, with an average attendance of over a thousand children each Sunday, the Savings Bank, and the Lads' Club, are so many active agencies for the betterment of the poor and unfortunate of the district. To carry out the work necessitates the

assistance of many willing workers, who are ceaseless in their efforts to assist the superintendent of the movement, Mr. Thomas Johnson, in the work to which he has devoted his life. Few men have rendered so much service to his less fortunate brethren as has Mr. Johnson, and so completely is he wrapped up in his work that a brief record of his life must be made.

MR. THOMAS JOHNSON.

A native of the district, born of poor parents, and left as a lad to look after himself, Thomas Johnson was fifty years ago a typical waif. Dressed in rags, without a home, he was compelled at the period of life when most children are attending school and getting some pleasure out of life, to earn his own living. Miserably small were the earnings of the barefooted boy, but small as they were they enabled him to buy food to keep body and soul together. He has been referred to as picking bristles at the school in Nelson Street, but from time to time he got other jobs. One of these was selling newspapers. In those days the *Manchester Courier* office was in St. Ann's Square, and the paper was issued twice a week. Young Johnson sold the paper in the streets, and on more than one occasion his industry combined with his wretched appearance appealed successfully to Mr. Sowler, the proprietor of the newspaper, who would treat the lad to a good meal at a Market Street dining rooms. About the same time the *Daily Telegraph* was engaged in a big fight with the *Morning Star*. The latter newspaper had a large provincial circulation, and the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* determined if possible

to secure precedence. Parcels of the paper were therefore sent to Manchester and other towns, and were distributed free in the streets. Johnson was engaged for the purpose, his stand being the big lamp at the corner of Mosley Street. Such was the commencement of a career that has since then been fraught with good to thousands of Manchester's poor. Since his earliest days Mr. Johnson has been connected with the Ragged School movement. We have shown how he became associated with it as a waif. When in later years fortune smiled on him, and he secured better employment, connected with which was a better rate of pay, he continued his connection with the movement as an enthusiastic worker. Succeeding years saw further improvement in his position, but there was no slackening in his enthusiasm for the rescue work he had taken up. Ultimately he became the head of the Charter Street movement, and was the means of adding the most valuable branch to the work there carried out, by the inauguration of the Working Girls' Home. So thoroughly absorbed is Mr. Johnson in his work that he devotes the whole of his spare time to it. Few citizens can point to such a record of valuable service rendered on behalf of the most helpless and deserving section of the community as can Mr. Johnson. Known to everyone in this part of the city, beloved by the children whose lives he has done so much to brighten, respected by the old and infirm who in no less degree have benefited from his efforts, and dreaded by the persistent wrong-doer, Mr. Johnson pursues from day to day the even tenour of his way. In order to give some idea of the work that he is doing, mention may

be made of the details of one branch of that work. The Childrens' and Old Folks' Trips' Fund for 1906 amounted in all to £633, of which £398 was received by Mr. Johnson. The first treat was the taking of 1100 children to the seaside for a day, where boating, bathing, donkey-riding, and sports were indulged in. A month later, July 25th, a party of 300 persons over sixty years of age were taken for a day to Lytham, where a landau drive was a leading feature of an enjoyable day. In the winter months 1350 pairs of clogs and boots were distributed to the most needy of the children of the district, 53,000 meals were served to children, and 13,000 to destitute men and women. When in addition to all this we remember that fine Punch and Judy, and Cinematograph entertainments were given to audiences of delighted children, and £20 was spent in toys, we realise how vast is the work controlled by Mr. Johnson. The adding of his name to the roll of the Magistrates for the city was a timely recognition of his services to the community. At the same time it is doubtful whether any other member of the bench possesses quite the same qualifications for carrying out the duties of the office; and none have had a wider experience of the poorer and criminal classes of the city.



## HALLIWELL STREET.

### AN EARLY JEWISH SYNAGOGUE.

#### THE FIRST MEETING ROOM.

The first building erected in Manchester to serve the purposes of a synagogue stood in Halliwell Street, a street that suffered very considerably when Corporation Street was made. This was not the first Jewish place of worship in the town, consequently before giving its history it will be as well to say something about its predecessors. These were two in number. The first appears to have been of modest dimensions, for it is thus described by Aston in the first edition of his *Manchester Guide*, published in 1804. "The Jews' synagogue is in a small upper chamber in Garden Street, Withy Grove. The number of persons who compose the congregation being very small, there is little to recommend the synagogue to notice. It exhibits a striking contrast in its embellishments to the grandeur distinguished in the sacred writings, with which the Children of Israel celebrated their religious rites." In this summary fashion does Aston dispose of the meeting place of a body which to-day (a century later) represents an important section of our population. But small as were the building and the congregation, the latter included at least one individual who in later years rose to a high position in the country, and whose family ranks high amongst the

wealthy and influential families of to-day. In 1804, the year in which Aston wrote, Nathan Meyer Rothschild, merchant and manufacturer in Brown Street, and who resided in Downing Street, was a regular worshipper in the little room in Garden Street. An account of his career has appeared in an earlier volume, so that further reference to him in this connection is unnecessary. At the same time it is well to note that at least one member of the congregation that he dismisses with such scant ceremony, became famous far beyond the confines of our city. The number of Jews in Manchester a century ago was small. No Jewish name can be traced in the directories for 1772 and 1773, and in the one for 1788 there is only one such entry, that of Hamilton Levi, who is described as a flower dealer who lived in Long Millgate. By 1794 the number of entries had risen to nine, including Jacob Nathan, who also lived in Long Millgate, and whose descendents are still well known in the city, and Henry Isaacs, sealing wax manufacturer and pen cutter, whose address was at 1 Milner's Court, Withy Grove. It is curious that in those days the Jews were located in Long Millgate, Withy Grove, and Shudehill. Year by year the number increased, but with few exceptions they settled down in the neighbourhood of Long Millgate. It is therefore not surprising that when the room in Garden Street proved to be too small to accommodate the growing congregation, a room in a court off Long Millgate was chosen. This took place in 1810.

#### THE SECOND MEETING ROOM.

The building was a small one situated in Ainsworth's



Court, an opening that stood opposite to "Poets' Corner." The room though probably larger than the earlier one, must have been modest in size and appearance. It was approached by a long, narrow flight of outside steps, had previously been used as a school, and was described by Aston in his second edition in precisely the same terms as those previously quoted in description of the Garden Street room. Up to this time no minister or "reader" can be traced, but from 1813 to 1816 Israel Lewis acted as reader, and was succeeded by Lazarus Barnett, who officiated until 1822. About that time the number of Jews in the town was greatly increased by a number of migrants from Germany. This was one of the results of the peace that followed the battle of Waterloo. The directory includes the names of many families who have rendered valuable service in the public interests, and attained to high positions in the commercial world. A few names may be mentioned. Mendel Albrecht, merchant, who lived at 11 Mulberry Street; Solomon Levi Behrens, whose warehouse was in Back George Street, and who lived at 10 Mosley Street; G. J. Cohen, Merchant, of 17, Lloyd Street; S. A. Liebert, whose warehouse was in Bow Lane; Louis Magnus, another merchant who resided in Mosley Street; N. P. Nathan, whose first place of business was in Sounding Alley; Israel Elias Reiss, who resided at 32 Fountain Street; and P. B. Schwabe, whose connection with the Manchester trade of those days was a forecast of the high commercial position attained in later years by other members of the same family. One result of this great accession of new

members was the decision to build a place of worship. A piece of land in Halliwell Street was purchased, and in 1825 the new synagogue was opened.

#### THE HALLIWELL STREET SYNAGOGUE.

The Ainsworth's Court room was not abandoned, but continued in use by a section of the Jewish community until about 1857. The first minister at Halliwell Street was the Rev. Abraham Abrahams, who officiated until his death in 1838. The synagogue stood at the top of Halliwell Street. It was number 12, and a few doors lower down, but on the opposite side, Mr. Abrahams lived, whilst at number 1 Philip Solomon, the beadle, resided. Mr. Abrahams was buried in the secluded little Jewish graveyard in Pendleton. This little plot of land, measuring fifteen yards by twelve is situated behind a row of cottages on the right hand side of Brindle Heath Road. The twenty-nine grave stones surrounded as they are with rank grass and weeds, and the whole enclosed by a brick wall, form a melancholy object to the visitor. The inscription on Mr. Abraham's gravestone is as follows :—

“ Sacred to the Memory  
of the

REV. ABRAHAM ABRAHAMS,

who departed this life December 15, a.m., 5599,

Aged 60 Years.

*Though strife prevail among the sons of earth,  
Though like the good, the wicked here may fare,  
In paradise no evil can have birth,  
For the pious only have a dwelling there.”*

For more than thirty years the synagogue served the requirements of the congregation, and even then was only abandoned because the opening out of Corporation Street led to its demolition. A glance at Aston's third edition of the *Guide* shows that the same terms that had served to describe the Garden Street and Ainsworth's Court meeting rooms were applied in describing the Halliwell Street building. When it was abandoned, the members took possession of the Great Synagogue that was built in Cheetham Hill Road. At the same time the Ainsworth's Court congregation left their meeting place, and the two congregations joined in the building of the new synagogue, the foundation stone of which was laid on April 29th, 1857, the building being consecrated on March 25th, 1858.



## HUNT'S BANK.

### THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

As we pass along Victoria Street to-day on our way to and from Victoria Station, our minds are too much occupied with the particular business we have in hand to spare even a thought for the origin of the name of Hunt's Bank ; but a moment's consideration will show us how strangely mingled are the ancient and modern in this interesting, if smoky old city of ours. Not only do we find the old college reminiscent of the town of many centuries ago standing alongside the modern railway station ; but in the street names of Hunt's Bank and Victoria Street we have a connecting link between the Manchester of the Normans and the Manchester of to-day, for whereas Victoria Street was so named after Queen Victoria, Hunt's Bank is traceable to the sport-loving proclivities of the followers of William the Conqueror.

The Normans were not the first settlers in the neighbourhood for excavations have disclosed evidences of a British tribe having settled there, and that when the Romans came north they took possession of the British stronghold, and occupied it themselves. After the Romans had left the country the Northumbrians and Mercians took possession of the little stronghold built upon the rocky bank of the Irk, and probably remained there some time. Then in later years the Danes came

on the scene, ravaging the surrounding country and sacking the Manchester of those early days. Next in order came the Normans, who, after the battle of Hastings, parcelled out the country amongst themselves. Manchester fell to the share of the Gresleys, who became lords of the Manor, and built a manorial hall on the site. In this way we pass along the pathway of history, noting the landmarks as we pass. Under the Normans the country gradually settled down. At first there were outbreaks amongst those who had been conquered, but as time passed on these gradually ceased, and all classes settled down to a life of peace and quietness. The Normans as the victors took full advantage of this, and gradually developed that love of sport that became one of their leading characteristics, and which probably had something to do with a similar tendency on the part of the Englishmen of to-day. It was this love of sport that gave us the place name of Hunt's Bank, as reference to ancient documents fully proves. In this connection we may make several references to such documents; the first of which is a manuscript consisting of twenty-four leaves of folio foolscap bearing date 1320 and comprising a survey of the Manor and Barony of Mamecestre. There we read that "beyond the gate is a certain house which used to be a dog kennel of the lord's which is worth with the curtilage, twelve pence. Also over the wall of the stable, outside the gate, is a certain plot of pasture sloping to the streams of Hirke and Irwell, worth by the year three pence." The mention of the dog kennel points unmistakably to the keeping of hounds for sport. The assessment of the building as being worth a shilling

per annum, and the adjoining meadow at three pence a year is a curious illustration in the change in land and other values in the course of six centuries. In another document dated 1422 we read : " And so by another burgage of the aforesaid Laurence, and by the place of Ralph Staneley, knight, as far as the Bulle Oke ; and so from the Bulle Oke descending by the Hunt Hull, which Edmund Parker holds, as far as to the midstream of the aforesaid water of Irke, near a certain bridge called Irke Brygge."

The Bull Oak, reminiscent of bull-baiting days, stood in or near the hedge on the Fennel Street side of the churchyard. In other documents we have reference to William Le Hunt, who occupied certain lands hereabouts ; and it is suggested that he belonged to the family of the hunter of the Gresley family. It is therefore tolerably certain that our place name was associated with the meeting together of hunters and dogs for the purpose of following the chase. The country side round the hall was very pleasant in those days, fields spreading out in all directions, and trees flourishing in a manner that we cannot realise. It would be therefore amidst rural surroundings that the Gresleys and their friends would make their way, to the music of the hunter's horn, to the woods of Alport or Blackley.

There are few references to Hunt's Bank in the earlier Court Leet records, but it is very evident from the entries that do exist that as a place name Hunt's Bank goes back for over three and a half centuries. It is marked on the map taken about 1650. A glance at that very interesting document discloses some

noteworthy features. We find that the houses that a century ago stood on the bank of the Irwell, and were adjacent to the wall that marked the boundary of the churchyard, had not been built. The low churchyard wall is duly marked. The portion of the present Fennel Street extending from Victoria Street to Long Millgate is marked "Back o' th' Church." Hunt's Bank is represented as being fringed with houses from "Back o' th' Church to the bridge over the Irk."

Coming down to the close of the eighteenth century we have several views of Hunt's Bank, which give us some idea of its appearance before Victoria Street was thought of. In one of these by Orme, we see a pack horse leisurely making its way along the Strangeways side of the Irk ; whilst on the narrow footway is a volunteer in company with his sweetheart. A single tree and a few cottages complete the picture. Another view, a drawing by Barritt about 1774, presents several notable features. The artist evidently took his stand somewhere near the lower end of the Palatine Hotel site. Facing us in the distance is the church tower. On the right hand side of the thoroughfare is a building overlooking the river. On the adjacent river bank is seated a disciple of Isaac Walton, and lower down the river three trees deck the Salford bank. On the left hand side of Hunt's Bank are a number of two-storied buildings. One of these is the prison, to which further reference will be made in the next chapter. The curious feature of the prison building is that only the upper storey is provided with windows, from which are hanging bags attached to cords by means of which the unfortunate prisoners

ask for the charitable gifts of passers-by. An officer is ushering a prisoner through the doorway, and close by a man is engaged in an attempt to catch a horse which is evidently enjoying itself. The whole picture is full of interest, and depicts Hunt's Bank under conditions very different from those of our day.





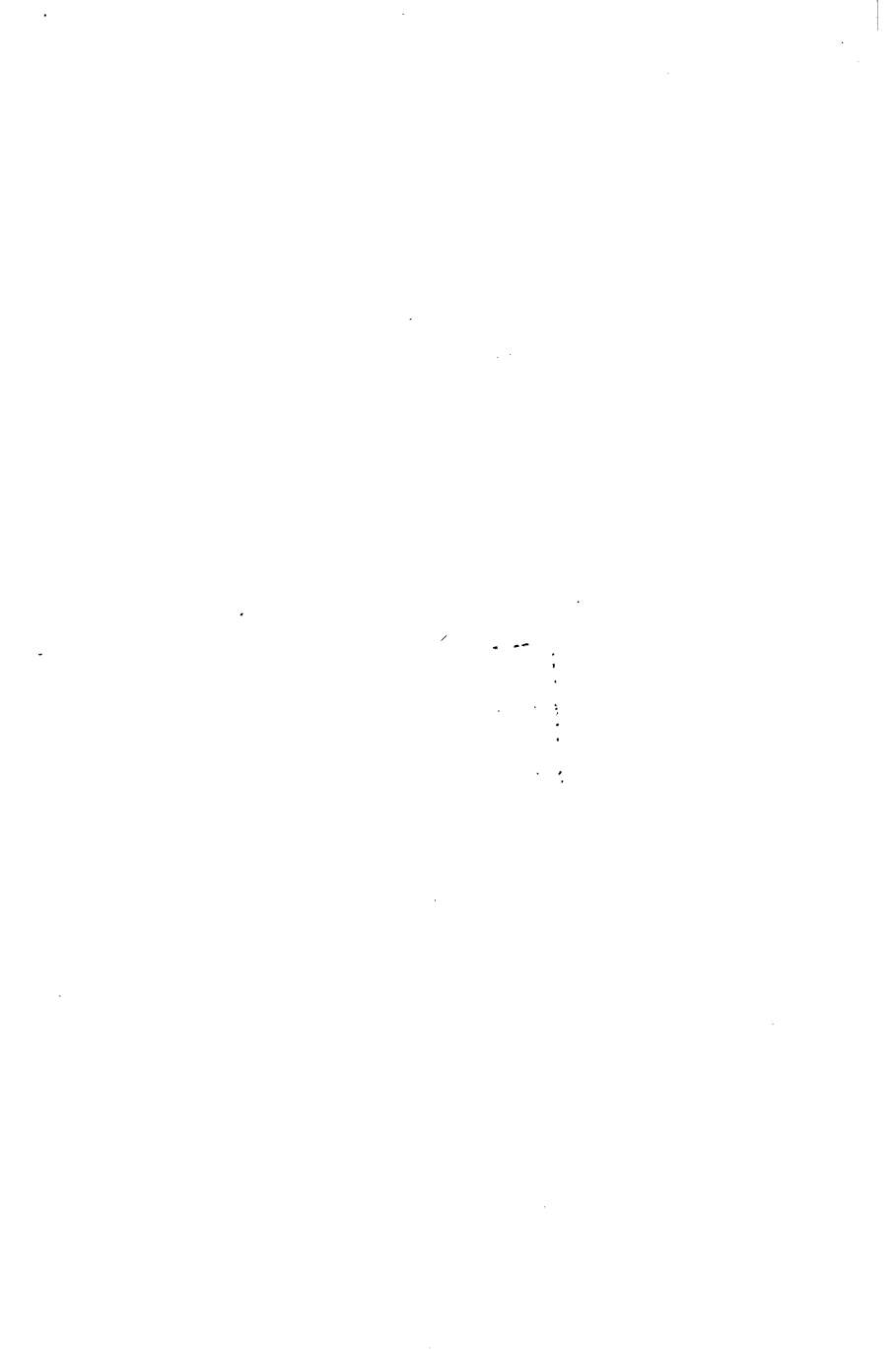
## HUNT'S BANK PRISON.

In an account of Manchester written in 1783 we find the following account of a building that formerly stood on a portion of the site now occupied by the Palatine Hotel. "Adjoining to the Hospital (Chetham's) is the House of Correction which was lately rebuilt by order of the justices, whose names are at the front door, with that of the governor under whose directions it was rebuilt at the charge of the Salford Hundred. The upper part is of brick, interlaced with oak spars, and hence very secure. The lower consists of cells cut in the rock, and aired by funnels connected with the atmosphere. To these there is an iron gate of singular contrivance to secure prisoners, upon locking-up, from any attempts upon the governor and his assistants. On the back way to the prison, next the College, a dungeon has been made, upon the demolition of that heretofore upon the Old Bridge when it was widened on that side. The constables, who are head magistrates in this town, being then without a prison to confine offenders before examination, have here lower cells, very strong, with an upper prison. A guard house for soldiers, over all, adds to the security of both these and the House of Correction."

The earlier prison that preceded the one thus described was built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Such is the only available information; and it is believed that it was used continuously until about 1774 when it was taken down.



HUNT'S BANK, SHOWING THE PRISON. FROM AN OLD PRINT.



## AN ANCIENT CHILD'S GAME.

The mention of the days of Queen Elizabeth reminds one that in those days the local authorities were much concerned because certain persons persisted in playing certain games in the streets to the annoyance of residents and others. On April 23rd, 1579 the following order was accordingly passed: "Whereas there is great abuse in a game used in the town called 'Gede Gadye, or the Catt's Pallett,' that no person shall play at the same game, being above the age of seven years, upon pain of every person so playing, to be imprisoned in the dungeon for the space of two hours; and every parent or master of such persons so playing, having warning of their servants or children so doing, for every time so serving them after warning given, 4d. This order is made because divers of the inhabitants do find themselves aggrieved that their children be hurt, and in danger of being hurt." As it was found necessary to repeat this order about four years later it is evident that the two hours' imprisonment and the fine of fourpence was not sufficiently strong to act as a deterrent, with the result that the fine was raised to sixpence. The game referred to was very probably what is known now as tip-cat, and we can understand how the burgesses of Queen Elizabeth's time would resent the indulgence in it by youths and young men in the streets of the little town.

We have few records of the commitment of offenders to the "New Fleet" prison as it was called. We read that in 1581 one "Richard Smithe, an ould pryst,

died in the fleet," but we are not told whether he was committed to prison for indulging in religious practices condemned by the law as it then existed, or from having broken some other law. Another record is to the effect that on February 7th, 1584 "Henry Jackson, prysoner in the fleet" died there, and on January 13th, 1601 we are told that "Alice, daughter of Richard Hodghead" was "borne in the dungeon." Proctor tells us of another case which was of so serious a nature that it was recorded in the calendar of State Papers. It was the subject of a special communication from James Asheton to the constables of Manchester whose letter ran as follows: "1605, James Asheton to the Constables of Manchester. I hear that Philip Fytton, of Moston, labourer, behaves dangerously in going to places and persons infected with the plague, and thence bringing apparel, and wearing the same, and wandering abroad in the daytime, and in the night lying in out-houses of divers inhabitants of Moston, to their grief and danger; and although he has been chained in his cabin by the constables of Moston, he has broken the chain. I therefore, in his Majesty's name, command you, the constables and officers of the town, to receive the said Fytton into your prison or dungeon of Manchester and Salford, there to remain at the cost of the town of Moston until further orders." Philip Fytton was evidently of unsound mind, and would not be conscious of the fact that he was a danger to society, having been infected with that fell disease, the plague.

Leaving the records of three centuries ago we pass on to the times of John Howard, the prison philanthropist who made several visits to Manchester in the

course of his tours of the prisons of England. He tells us that when he was here in November, 1774, he found twenty-one prisoners in confinement. A year later the number only reached six; in September, 1776, there were twelve, in May, 1779, the number was eleven; five years later the number had risen to fifty-one, and in 1787 it was 53. The building as it appeared prior to the rebuilding referred to in the opening sentences of this chapter is described in a previous chapter. Howard tells us of several reforms introduced after the rebuilding, and these are worthy of mention. In the first place prisoners were no longer able to solicit alms from passers-by, because the cells were not lighted from the street. The lot of the poorer prisoners must have been anything but desirable, for with the exception of an allowance of two pence per day for the sick, their only source of income was their earnings for spinning candle wick for which they received three halfpence per pound from the keeper of the prison, who carried on the trade of a chandler. To augment these meagre earnings a box for the receipt of contributions was placed in front of the building, bearing the inscription "Sick and in prison, and ye visited me not." Another of Howard's remarks throws a light upon what had hitherto been one of the worst features of the system then in vogue. In 1776 the keeper's wages were raised from twenty-five to sixty pounds per annum, that individual being no longer permitted to extort fees from his unwilling guests.

In 1790 the New Bailey prison was opened and the prisoners were transferred thither. After being altered the Hunt's Bank prison was converted into an inn

and as the "Castle," and later the "College" provided for its guests entertainment differing considerably from that which had fallen to the lot of its earlier occupants. A local poet, Charles Kenworthy, who has been previously referred to, wrote the following lines appropo of the building about forty years later.

"The 'Castle' that long braved the flood,  
Where oft was brewed, stout ale, and good !  
A College Inn is seen.  
Where frowned the ancient dungeon wall,  
Rise modern buildings, fair and tall,  
And stables palatine."

#### PALATINE BUILDINGS.

The next change to be noted took place in 1842, when the pile now known as Palatine Hotel and Buildings were erected. They were evidently put up in anticipation of the demand for hotel accommodation that would follow the projected extension of the Manchester and Leeds Railway line from Collyhurst to Hunt's Bank. The speculator was Robert Gill of Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts, who was the manager of the railway company. Over the shops were a number of stables, and the top storey was intended to serve the purpose of a riding school. The approach to the stables and school was by means of an inclined slope to which there was a doorway next door to the gateway of the Chetham College. It was a novel experience to see a horse's head thrust through a window on the third floor, but such an experience was by no means rare. The venture paid for a while, but after the novelty had worn off patronage fell away, and about fifty years ago the stables and school were altered into sitting and bed rooms and added to the hotel.

## THE RIVER IRK.

Aston in his *Lancashire Gazetteer* describes the river Irk in the following terms: "The river Irk rises in Royton and the neighbourhood of Oldham, the two branches uniting in the vicinity of Alkrington Hall, from whence the river proceeds to the south-west, till at Heaton it begins to flow south, watering Blackley and the beautiful valley of Crumpsall. At Collyhurst it is increased by a rivulet (which rises near Hollinwood) and falls into the river Irwell at the back of that venerable building, the College in Manchester." When to this we add the fact that in those days the Manchester rivers were running with water of perfect purity, that as it flowed between its banks to join the Irwell it sparkled and glinted in the sunshine, that trout basked in its shallows, and that eels of unusual size were caught in it, we have a picture very different from the one that presents itself to the sight of anyone who to-day tries to explore its inky depths. But the picture is not fanciful merely, for it was in the early days of our city true to the letter. Even after the fulling mills had been erected on its banks it retained its repute as a fish producing stream, and the dainty and luscious eels, fattened, we are told, by the refuse from the mills, caught in it formed a popular dish at the dinner table of the Warden and Fellows of the Collegiate Church who lived at the College.



As to the origin of the name Irk, the Rev. John Davies says that it is derived from Iwrch, the Welsh for roebuck, probably from the fact that rising in comparatively high ground, it bounded downwards to the lower level of Manchester. Such an explanation has certainly the appearance of being probably correct ; and probably has something to do with the floods that so frequently caused the Irwell and Irk to overflow their banks. The earliest mention of Irk known to exist is in a document dated 1320, where it is spelled Irke, thus showing that in the course of nearly six centuries very little change has taken place in the spelling of the word. Thus early we read of the fisheries of Manchester, a translation of the document giving the following rendering : " There are also there the waters of Irke running from above Mamecestre and Blakele. The Medeloke, running through the middle of the lord's fee and Aldport, and the Gore-brocke, through the midst of Gorton. The banks of which on both sides these streams are of the lord's soil ; in which streams it is unlawful for anyone to fish without the license of the lord, for that it is his warren ; and the fishery of these is worth twelve pence (per annum)." In 1473 William Tunnlinson rented the fishing rights in the Irk at a rental of one shilling per annum, the previous tenant, John Huntingdon, having paid double that sum.

Mrs. Banks in her novel *The Manchester Man* lays a portion of her plot in the vicinity of the Irk, and makes several interesting references to it. We read of the river, of the old 'Tanners' bridge, of the tannery that adjoined it, of the bleaching at Walker's Croft. and

finally of a flood that we are told devastated the valley of the Irk on August 17th, 1790. Simon Clegg, the oldest tanner in the yard, in company with his fellow workmen were busy in removing hides and other articles from the yard and pits to places of safety in case the rising waters should invade the tannery premises. The swollen stream was carrying away all kinds of wreckage, but the attention of the workmen was called to the fact that, included in the miscellaneous assortment of articles, was a painted wooden cradle containing a child, sleeping calmly, quite unconscious of impending danger. After many vain attempts at rescue had been made but without success, Simon Clegg and a boy rushed to Tanner's Bridge and were there enabled to bring the cradle and its living freight. The rescued child became the hero of the novel.

The flood in the Irk referred to reminds one of the disastrous floods that formerly produced such scenes of devastation in the lower portion of Salford; but which have been prevented in recent years by the action of the municipal councils of Manchester and Salford. A record of the most disastrous of these visitations will furnish many points of interest. The list does not necessarily pretend to be exhaustive, but includes notes on the most serious of the floods.

#### MANCHESTER FLOODS.

1616.—For our first record of a flood in Manchester we are indebted to Richard Hollingworth, a Fellow of the Collegiate Church. In his history of the town he says that in 1616 there "was an extraordinary greate flood, called from that day Lambard's flood,

in which the waters suddenly rose—yards plumme above the ordinary course, that men stood upon Salford bridge, and laded up water with a little piggin.”

1648. The writer says that in July, 1648 “there was a sudden and terrible raine on the Lord’s day, which in two hours’ space filled the sellers in the Market Place, Hanging-ditch, and there channells ran downe the streetes like greate rivers, in some places able to beare a large vessell.”

1767. A flood occurred on October 8th.

1787. During a great flood in the Irwell, which lasted for seven days, a portion of Salford Bridge was carried away.

1804. High floods in the Irwell caused considerable damage in January.

1816. There was a great flood in the Irwell. It extended over two days, and the water rose higher than during the flood of 1767.

1829. High flood in the Irwell in August.

1833. High flood in the Irwell on August 1st.

1837. During a very high flood in the Irwell on December 20th deep water was seen in New Bailey Street and Broughton Road. Cattle, pigs, rolls of calico, furniture, and a cradle containing a baby were washed down the stream.

1838. On October 16th the centres of the arch of the Victoria Bridge, then in course of erection in place of the Old Salford Bridge, were carried away by a flood on October 16th. Mr. Gannon, the contractor, whilst endeavouring to save them had his leg broken.

1843. High floods in the Irwell caused the temporary

footbridge near the New Bailey prison to be washed away on October 28th.

1852. Heavy rain for several days caused the rivers to overflow their banks on February 5th, doing very considerable damage. Lower Broughton Road, Great Clowes Street, Hough Lane, and other streets in the neighbourhood were flooded, and their inhabitants on returning from work had to be taken home in boats. The lower portions of Peel Park were covered with water to a depth of four feet.

1857. Great floods on August 13th and 14th caused by the Irwell, Medlock, and Irk overflowing their banks. Much damage to property was caused.

1860. Heavy rain on December 6th caused floods in the Irwell and Medlock. Many houses were flooded, and much property destroyed.

1866. On November 17th great floods in the rivers Irwell and Medlock. The water reached a remarkable height, and considerable damage was done. An obelisk was erected in Peel Park to commemorate the occurrence.

1869. A great flood in the Irwell on February 1st.

1872. The summer of 1872 was notable for the greatest and most disastrous flood recorded in the annals of Manchester. For a whole week in July heavy rain fell, and on the 12th and 13th alone more than an average month's fall was recorded. The Irwell rose with great rapidity, the lower portions of Peel Park were flooded, and the racecourse near Throstle Nest was inundated. But great as was the flood in the valley of the Irwell, it was exceeded by that which swept down the course of the Medlock. After

rising gradually for several days the river rose rapidly in the morning of the 12th, and by noon it had become a tremendous torrent, irresistible in its force, and carrying away a vast amount of property of almost every description. At Clayton Bridge one of the embankments of a lodge gave way, the contents of the lodge joining the stream. At Clayton Vale the river burst its banks, causing a great amount of damage at Messrs. Wood and Wright's print works. Bridges were destroyed, thousands of pieces of calico were carried into the river along with large pieces of machinery, and the whole works were devastated. Nearer to the city considerable damage was caused at the Philips' Park Cemetery. A large portion of the stone wall gave way, and the flood rushed across the lower portion of the cemetery. Thousands of tons of soil were displaced, coffins were washed out of the graves and with their contents were carried away by the torrent. How many bodies were disturbed was never known, but more than fifty were recovered and re-interred. Some of these were found in the cellars of houses lower down the stream when the water at length disappeared. A row of cottages were undermined at Holt Town. Palmerston Street was under water to a considerable depth, considerable damage being caused at the Ancoats Vale Rubber Works and other works in the neighbourhood. Many of the houses in Palmerston Street and the lower portion of Tutbury Street and Ancoats Grove were flooded to the height of the bedrooms, rafts being hastily constructed to rescue many of the inhabitants of houses whose safety

seemed to be threatened. At Boardman Street, Stove Street and Tipping Street similar scenes were witnessed, and the river entered some of the shops on London Road near to the bridge. The amount of damage done was enormous, the losses to the working classes being very heavy. Along the course of the river through the city a scene of devastation was witnessed. In some of the manufactories standing on the banks of the river in the low lying districts the water rose to a height of fifteen feet. At the point where the Medlock joins the Irwell there was a tremendous accumulation of water, much of which found its way into the Bridgewater Canal at Knott Mill. The sudden rising of the water level carried with it two barges filled with coal, which, when the water subsided, were deposited on the wharf near to one of the goods warehouses. \* The flood of 1872, although fortunate in being attended by the loss of only one life, was the most serious ever experienced by the people of Manchester.

1881. The Irwell rose to a height of fifteen feet above normal level. Peel Park and the adjacent low lying land was inundated, and many houses and works in Lower Broughton were flooded. This occurred on February 8th.

1881. Another fifteen feet flood in the Irwell was recorded\* on October 14th, when Lower Broughton and other low lying districts again suffered.

Several floods of minor importance have taken place in more recent years, but the days of serious inundations seem to be passed so far as Manchester is concerned.

## WALKER'S CROFT.

In previous chapters reference has been made to the fulling mill that stood centuries ago on the banks of the Irk. Connected with it was a large field, which was used for the exposure of cloth for bleaching purposes. This field thereby became known as Walker's Croft. The origin of the name of Walker's Croft was Flemish. The fulling mill is referred to in some old documents as the "walke-milne" from the Flemish "walcken," to full. The Flemings who seem to have introduced the fulling industry in Manchester came to be known locally as "Walkers," and as a result the piece of land connected with their mill became known as "Walker's Croft." In the Court Leet records are a number of references to Walker's Croft, and we read of a footpath that led to "The Knolles," and of stiles giving access to the path.

At the beginning of the last century Walker's Croft was covered with pleasantly situated cottages, connected with which were gardens and fields. The cottages were popular with laundresses who used the open land as a drying ground. The gardens were in summer time gay with the blooms of the old fashioned plants so popular with our grandfathers, and still to be found in many an old time garden. In those days it was a pleasant walk from the more densely populated parts of the town to Walker's Croft, and on fine summer

mornings groups of operatives found their way thither to purchase bunches of flowers and salads for tea.

#### TWO OLD BURIAL GROUNDS.

The next use to which Walker's Croft was put was as a burial ground. Before mentioning the particulars concerning it, reference may be made to another graveyard long since forgotten. It stood on the college side of the Apple Market, or Back o' th' Church, as the lower end of Fennel Street was called. A piece of land lying between the present entrance to the College yard and the house built for and occupied by the high master of the Grammar School, was purchased in 1767 by the Cathedral authorities and was used as a burial ground. In the course of twenty-one years more than six thousand interments took place, and in February, 1788 a meeting of the parishioners resolved that the burial ground should be closed, and no bodies deposited there for thirty years. It was never re-opened, but in later years the brick walls which divided it from the street, and the college yard were taken down, and the space added to the yard. To-day there is nothing to show that any part of the college playground was ever used as a burial ground.

The Walker's Croft burial ground was purchased by the churchwardens of the parish, and was consecrated by the Bishop of Chester on January 1st, 1815. It was walled round, and was provided with a small chapel. Aston says of it: "It has a fine, dry, solid-laying sand, which makes it a most eligible burying place."



## VICTORIA STATION.

The last stage in the story of Walker's Croft was reached in 1838, when Mr. Sam Brooks offered the land, including a fine mansion which stood on an adjoining plot to the directors of the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company, to serve the purpose of a railway station. The Manchester and Leeds Railway Company obtained their first Act of Parliament in 1836. The first portion of the line, viz. from Manchester to Littleborough, was opened on July 4th, 1839. The Manchester terminus was at that time at Oldham Road, which, like the Liverpool and Manchester Company's station in Liverpool Road, was not sufficiently central to meet the convenience of passengers. The result was that much discussion took place as to a proposal to bring both lines into the centre of the town and to build a station that should serve as a junction between the two systems. Mr. Brooks' offer arose out of this discussion, and the necessary powers having been obtained the offer was accepted. The two companies extended their systems, and on January 1st, 1844, the new station at Hunt's Bank was opened. As compared with the Exchange and Victoria stations of to-day it was a very modest affair ; but although it consisted of only one platform, we are told that it was one of the finest stations in the country. The directorate of the Manchester and Leeds Company consisted almost exclusively of Manchester business men. As they included many names familiar to Manchester men, the list of them may be given.

They comprised James Wood (Wood and Westhead),

Chairman ; Samuel Brooks, the banker, vice-chairman ; Robert Gill, of Adlington Hall, and who was in business in Newmarket Lane ; Henry Forth, of Forth and Marshall ; John Smith, of the family of Smith and Ingle, paper manufacturer, Piccadilly ; William Haynes, silk manufacturer, Cooper Street ; Henry Houldsworth, father of Sir W. H. Houldsworth, and who was a cotton spinner in Newton Street, residing at Ardwick Green ; Thomas Fielding, of Todmorden ; Thomas Broadbent, calico manufacturer and printer, whose warehouse was in Marsden Square and who lived at Ardwick Green ; and Aaron Lees, another cotton spinner residing at Higher Ardwick. These were the men who started the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company on its career. In 1847, as a result of amalgamation with other local companies the title was changed to the Lancashire and Yorkshire ; and in 1859 the company was further increased by the absorption of the East Lancashire Company. Since then the station has seen innumerable changes. In 1880 the London and North Western Company commenced the erection of Exchange Station. Year by year other extensions have been made to Victoria Station, and to-day it appears to the stranger in the city as a huge collection of platforms and railway lines amongst which it is easy to lose oneself.

#### BEFORE THE RAILWAY.

When application was made to Parliament for railway constructing powers the usual method of calculating the probable passenger traffic was to take the number of coaches on the roads, to allow ten passengers for

each four horsed coach, and eight for each one drawn by two horses, and to multiply the total by two. This, it was supposed, would give the number of persons who would use the line. In 1836 there were three modes of conveying goods from Manchester to Hull. The ordinary way occupied from five to seven days and cost thirty shillings per ton; by fly-boat and steam packet on the canals the time occupied was four days, but the cost was forty shillings per ton; and by wagon to Selby and thence by steam packet took only three days, but the cost was fifty shillings per ton. It was calculated that, exclusive of minerals, the amount of goods carried by the three routes exceeded 600,000 tons per annum. The coaches running between Manchester and Leeds were estimated to carry 1500 passengers per day. Small wonder is it then, that merchants and manufacturers alike favoured the proposed scheme, which would link up so many towns and villages. The popular feeling was well expressed in one of the *Songs of the Wilsons*.

Aw yeard mi Uncle Nathan say :  
They're going to mak a new railway,  
Fro' Manchester to Owdham, eh !  
Aw wish it warn boh gaited.

For weavers then to th' warehouse soon,  
Will ta'e their cuts by twelve at noon,  
Beside th' saveation o' their shoon,  
They'll noan so oft get bated.

Those were the days of the handloom weavers when so much weaving was done in the cottages in and around our manufacturing towns, and when a weekly journey to the warehouse with cloth was necessary.

The figures as to probable passengers were more than

justified very early in the career of the new railway, for whereas it was estimated that the number carried would be three thousand per day from Manchester to Leeds, the returns for the first twenty-four days over the shorter distance to Littleborough showed that 11,029 first and second-class passengers and 37,624 third-class were carried. This gave an average of over 2000 per day for the shorter distance.

The Leeds and Manchester Company was noteworthy for the manner in which they placed railway travelling within the reach of the masses. Very early they inaugurated cheap trips and excursions; and as early as 1845 they carried during Whit Week some 60,000 Sunday scholars a distance of 100 miles at sixpence per head. In the same year they issued return tickets at single fare rates on Saturday afternoons and available for return on Monday morning. One of the first serious accidents that took place on the line occurred at Miles Platting in January, 1845, when an engine, "The Irk," which had been built from the designs of George Robert Stephenson, and which had travelled 75,000 miles, exploded, killing three men.



## NEW BRIDGE STREET.

IN 1793.

An examination of Laurent's plan shows that in 1793 the new workhouse stood alone in the midst of open fields. The bridge that gave the name to New Bridge Street had not been constructed, and the proposed street is only marked by dotted lines showing that it had not been made. Very pleasant would be the out-look from the workhouse windows. Looking in the direction of Salford, with the exception of the few houses that fringed Hunt's Bank, nothing but open fields and gardens would be seen on the Manchester side of the river, whilst across the water Salford would appear only as a small village with picturesque surroundings. On the Manchester side of the building the old College would be seen across the fields, whilst in the direction of Long Millgate and Ashley Lane, although more houses would be seen than in either of the other two directions, the outlook was the reverse of unpleasant, as the gardens of the houses, with the green fields fringing Back Lane, as Rochdale Road was then called, as a background, would indicate. The best views would be obtained at the Broughton side, for it would be over Strangeways Park, with its fishponds and plantations. As far as the eye could reach would be seen nothing but foliage and verdure, save where, at rare intervals, a rural cot would intervene, not however to spoil the picture, but to add variety

and picturesqueness to it. It was in the midst of such surroundings that the authorities decided to erect their new workhouse. The New Bridge Street site was in those days quite as rural, if not more so, as the site of the Withington workhouse is to-day. The next fifty years saw many changes in the neighbourhood. Buildings sprang up on all sides, and by 1843 the district had lost all claim to be regarded as a pleasant, rural suburb. In the meantime the bridge which gave the name to the street was built, the Act of Parliament giving the necessary power having received Royal assent on June 20th, 1816.

#### THE WORKHOUSE.

The earliest reference to a workhouse in our records dates back as far as 1582, when Robert Worsley who was the keeper of the prison in Hunt's Bank, offered "that on condition of being allowed the proceeds of the jail tax for one whole year he would, at his own proper charges, build a workhouse, sufficient to afford employment to all the rogues, vagabonds and idlers in the country." The jail tax was a parochial assessment levied throughout the diocese of Chester. Whether Worsley's offer was accepted or not we are not told ; and for our next reference to a serious attempt made to relieve distress we must pass on to the time of the Protectorate. In those days we are told that a portion of the College Barn that formerly stood at Hunt's Bank, between the prison and the College Gate House, was purchased by the churchwarden and overseer for the time being, in order that it might be "made in readiness to set the poor people on work to prevent

their begging." A later experiment in Miller's Lane has already been referred to. Coming down to the closing part of the eighteenth century we find that the workhouse then stood in Cumberland Street, Deansgate, and that it was used until the removal was made to the present site. That building and its surroundings are described in an advertisement dated June 12th, 1792. It ran thus: "To be sold, by order of the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Manchester, the fee simple and inheritance of and in all that large and substantial pile of buildings, with the workshops and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situated, standing and being in Cumberland Street, in Manchester aforesaid, now used as the Manchester poorhouse; the site or ground plot contains upwards of one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven superficial square yards." This announcement was made in consequence of the erection of the new workhouse, the foundation stone of which was laid by Mr. Leaf, a magistrate, on June 24th, 1791. Aston's description of the building and the method of treatment of the inmates is interesting, and as furnishing a side light on the social state of the people nearly a century ago it is reproduced here.

The Manchester poorhouse, he says "is a large, spacious, and we may fairly say, elegant building. It was erected in 1792, upon a very eligible piece of high ground, near the confluence of the Irk with the Irwell. The size forced the architect to make the walls massy. The degree of elegance which is shown was therefore of little cost. The mere disposal of the external parts, was a matter of taste only; and the

inside is admirably adapted for the purposes intended. Persons who do not properly consider the subject, on the first sight of the building are apt to say it has far from the appearance of a poor-house ; not considering how much magnitude contributes to create ideas of grandeur and magnificence. If small cottages, sufficiently numerous to contain the number of poor people who are constantly in the house, had been erected, instead of the present poorhouse, they would have covered more land than the whole which is now occupied by the spacious garden, and would have cost very much more (to say nothing of the extra charge, which must have been a continual drain, for repairing slight tenements), than the present handsome edifice, which will probably last some years, and continue a comfortable habitation to the succeeding poor, and be a lasting monument to the liberality of the inhabitants of Manchester in the eighteenth century. In 1824 the building was coated with Roman cement, which has added very much to its appearance. A manufactory of cotton goods is carried on in the house, in which the stronger poor are employed, and the children are instructed in the arts of winding, warping, and weaving. The general economy of the house, regulated as it is by the attention of the weekly visits of district overseers, whose interest as ley-payers will keep down any unnecessary expense, and whose humanity must prompt them to do everything possible for the comfort of the inmates of it, is certainly deserving of praise ; and the family of poverty is governed in the most orderly manner. Many of the individuals in advanced age are, in most respects, more comfortable than they were in the days



of their youth and strength, if cleanliness and orderliness are to be taken, as they ought, into account. The average number of paupers of all ages supported in the house is from 350 to 400, whose board costs per head from three shillings and sixpence to four shillings per week."

The workhouse described in such glowing terms was replaced in 1855 by a more modern structure, which still serves many of the purposes of the board of guardians, and which has been supplemented by the series of buildings at Crumpsall and Swinton. The Swinton Industrial Schools were opened in February, 1846, and for sixty years have proved to be a valuable branch of the work undertaken by the board of guardians.

#### THE LADIES' JUBILEE SCHOOL.

The Ladies Jubilee School has a record dating back to 1806, when a number of ladies published a plan to educate poor girls, particularly destitute orphans, in such a way as to fit them for domestic service. Three years later a house was taken in Broughton Lane and the scheme was put into operation. At first ten girls were educated and trained, then the number was raised to fourteen, and as subscriptions increased it was further augmented to twenty. In 1810 the residents of the town, in commemoration of the jubilee of George III., contributed funds to various local charities. One of these was the Jubilee School, which thereby obtained its name. This enabled the building of the school in New Bridge Street on land given by Lord Ducie. Soon afterwards the number of girls was increased to thirty. After giving an account of the

system of education and training observed in the school, one local writer makes a remark which is worth recording. It was written in 1816. He says: "In a manufacturing district, where the temptations to poor parents to avail themselves of the earnings of even infancy, in cotton factories, etc., and when their own parental duties are too often neglected, whilst they labour for bread; and where the personal labour of hearty young women is much wanted in manufactories, it is scarcely to be wondered at that good servants are becoming scarce." The earlier portion of the sentence reminds us that the days of the Factory Acts were not yet come, and that children of tender years were sent to work in the cotton mills of the district. In the early part of the century my grandfather, as a lad of eight years, was sent to work in the mill. He worked from six in the morning till eight at night, with a stop of half an hour for dinner; breakfast and tea were to be got whilst working. On Saturdays he finished at seven o'clock, and his first wages were eighteen pence per week.

The children of the school were "clothed in blue stuff frocks, blue stockings, and straw bonnets; and on Sundays they wore white aprons and tippets," and in some, if not all, respects the same is in vogue to-day.

When Miss F. Hall died she left a large sum of money to be divided between four local charities. The Jubilee School was one of these, and the institution benefited to the extent of £10,766. This enabled the committee to increase the number of scholars to forty. The school still continues, conducted on similar lines to those observed in the early years of its career.

## STRANGWAYS UNITARIAN FREE CHURCH.

The Unitarian movement in Salford began in 1818, when a suggestion was made that a meeting-house should be opened in the neighbourhood of Greengate. By way of experiment a number of services in private houses were arranged, in 1820 a society was formed, and finally, a chapel was built in Dawson's Croft, Deansgate. It is described as having been a "small, plain, but convenient chapel with a Sunday School, and a small burial ground attached." Great as have been the changes in all parts of Manchester during the past eighty years, none probably have been so sweeping as those, in this, the oldest part of Salford. When the new chapel was opened, worshippers from Manchester, after crossing the old Salford Bridge, would pass a number of old black and white cottages in Old Bridge Street, and turning to the right in Chapel Street would soon be at Greengate. A narrow thoroughfare to the right off Greengate led to Dawson's Croft. The chapel was built in 1824, and was opened on Christmas Day of that year. The first pastor was Mr. W. Duffield, who resigned soon after the opening, and was succeeded by Mr. J. R. Beard, a student of Manchester New College. Under Mr. Beard's charge the congregation gradually grew, until the chapel was no longer able to accommodate it. At the same time great changes had taken place in the neighbourhood, and when, in 1835, it was decided to build a new chapel, a piece of land was purchased a little distance away, across the river. The lease was signed on May 20th, 1835, and was afterwards formally assigned to

a body of trustees, including many well-known citizens. Amongst these were Alfred Charlton, calenderer, who lived in North Parade ; Andrew Hall, calico printer ; John Potter, afterwards M.P. for Manchester, three times Mayor of the borough, and who was knighted by the Queen ; G. M. Ainsworth ; Edward Shawcross ; Robert Philips, father of Mark Philips, one time M.P. for Manchester ; John Crone, linen draper, of Deansgate ; Peter Eckersley ; George Heywood ; Richard Wilson ; William Dugdale, the calico-printer, and George Milnes. The corner stone of the new building was laid on October 26th, 1826, by Robert Philips ; the Rev. W. Gaskell taking part in the ceremony.

Some differences arose between the members of the congregation, which resulted in one section remaining at Dawson's Croft. However, in 1843 an arrangement was made whereby Dr. J. R. Beard and his congregation removed to New Bridge Street, and a new body of trustees was appointed. The congregations united on January 8th, 1843, when the chapel was re-opened, Dr. Beard conducting the service. He continued to act as pastor for nearly forty years. During that period he was ever foremost in every philanthropic and reforming movement connected with the city. His congregation included Samuel Darbyshire, James Woolley, Harry Rawson, Ivie Mackie, and C. S. Grundy. Dr. Beard's successor was the Rev. Brooke Herford, who occupied the pulpit until 1875, when he left England to take charge of a congregation at Chicago. He was succeeded by the Rev. J. T. Marriott, during whose ministry the jubilee of the chapel was celebrated in 1888. From that time

onwards the fortunes of the chapel waned. Many members of the congregation had removed from the immediate neighbourhood, and had lost touch with it. At length only a remnant remained, and these as a rule resided at a distance from New Bridge Street. Therefore it was that in 1904 it was decided to remove the place of meeting to Higher Broughton. This was done, and for a time the chapel was empty. Then it was taken by the Young Womens' Christian Association, who have since then made it a centre of active work.



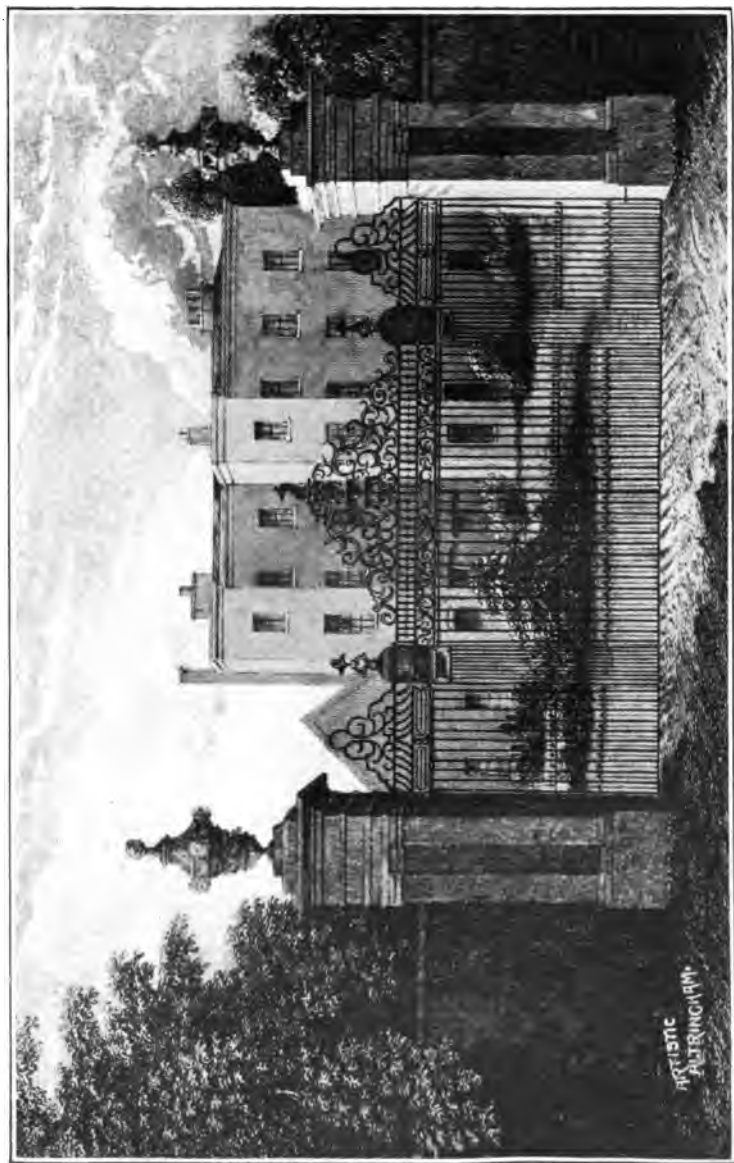
## STRANGWAYS PARK.

### AN ANCIENT FAMILY.

Long centuries ago, many generations before Manchester had emerged even into the dignity of a village, a well established family resided at Strangeways. Of the early history of the family nothing is known, and only a few fragments of fact exist with reference to the later generations of the family. For these particulars we are indebted to a number of documents formerly in the possession of the late Dr. Edward Holme, and which are referred to by Mr. Harland in his *Manchester Collectanea*. The earliest reference to the family is not mentioned by Mr. Harland. It is in a deed dated 1334, wherein Thomas de Strangwais appears as a witness. Twenty-six years later the same person or his son was one of the jurors who at an inquisition held at Preston declared that Roger la Warre, knight, Lord of Mamecestre did not hold Manchester as a borough, nor had his predecessors so held it; but that "from a time to which memory goeth not" he and his predecessors had held it as a market town. Harland's first reference is to an indenture dated 1385 in which Sir John Pondus, captain of Cherburg, and Robert de Dyneley, engaged three persons, John, Thomas, and Henry de Strangways, Esquires, to enter the king's service for the guard of the donjon of Cherburg for one year, in return for which services John was to receive £20, and Thomas and Henry £13 6s. 8d.

Sir John Pondus also to find victuals "fitting for esquires of their condition."

Another document to which we may refer is a charter of 1408 whereby James de Prestwich granted to William de Strangways all his estate in a plot of land, wood, and pasture called "The Knolles," which the grantor had on the demise of Thomas, Lord la Warre. Mr. Harland is evidently in error when he says "The Knolles" was probably Stony Knolls, Higher Broughton. On the plan of Manchester for 1645 we find that a house called "Knolles House" stood between Strangeways and the river Irk; and in the Court Leet records we find references to a foot-path through the fields from "The Knolles" to Walker's Croft. In 1421 Henry de Strangways held a tenement in "Market Stidde, Mamecestre." In 1459 Hugo Prowdeglove granted to John Strangwais a parcel of land lying upon the bank of the Irk, within a croft called "Pynghett," one hundred feet long by seven broad; and also a footway four feet wide, in the water of the Irk, across from the said croft to another way. This evidently refers to a ford across the river made by or owned by Hugo Prowdeglove who sold it to John Strangwais, together with a private path connected with it. We shall have a further reference to a foot-path, probably this one. Succeeding generations of the Strangways family seem to have added to the estate by purchase, and in 1514 Roger Cooke sold to Thomas Strangways a tenement in Mamecestre, "between the water of Irwell on the west, the water of Irk on the south, and a field on the north." This was evidently another piece of land adjacent to Walker's Croft.



STRANGEWAYS HALL, MANCHESTER.





Thomas Strangways was succeeded in the estates by his son Philip, who died in 1556, and was succeeded by William Strangways.

This brings us to another deed dated 1572, in which we read that Thomas Strangweys of Strangweys, who had agreed to marry Alice, daughter of John Robinson, of Salford, a cloth worker, owned land at Strangweys, Chetam, Rochdale, Spotland, Owldham, Chesden, Manchester, Salford, Wythyngton, and Ardewicke. This Thomas Strangweys stopped a footpath "going over the Knowles into the Walker's Croft." It was stated that the path, which was probably the one previously referred to, had been open for forty years, and the Court Leet ordered that inquiry be made into the matter. At a later meeting the jury ordered that the path be reopened. Two years later Thomas Strangwaies died, and was succeeded by his son, John, who was under age. He came of age in 1593. He died in 1601, and was succeeded by his son, John, who was only a child.

By far the most interesting of the documents referred to by Mr. Harland is the report of an inquiry made by Sir Thomas Hesketh, the Queen's Escheator, at Bolton after the death of Thomas Strangwaies in 1590. In it we learn that the Strangwayes estate was one of very considerable extent, for in addition to the Hall there was 200 acres of arable land, 10 acres of woodland, 300 acres of pasture, 80 acres of meadow land and 50 of moorland, or 640 acres in all. Strangwayes Hall and lands were held of the then Earl of Derby, "in socage and by the render of four barbed arrows yearly"; and was valued at upwards of £10 yearly, clear of all deductions. Land and money alike have

changed in value since the days when a fine mansion and 640 acres of land were valued at £10 a year. It is interesting to note also that Thomas Strangwaies held in Rusholme certain lands which had belonged to the dissolved monastery of Swineshead in Lincolnshire, for which he paid by way of rent one pair of gloves yearly.

The last member of the Strangways family to hold the estate was a Thomas Strangways, who about 1624 sold it to John Hartley. From the family are descended Baron Strangways, Earl of Ilchester; the Strangways of Somerset; and the Strangways of Alne Hall, York, and Bedale.

The spelling of the family name varied considerably from time to time as these references will show.

#### THE HARTLEYS OF STRANGWAYS.

John Hartley, who purchased the estate, belonged to an old Manchester family. We read of a Thomas Hartley who was a yeoman of Moss Side, who died in 1592. His eldest son was Nicholas, who was a linen draper in Manchester, and was borough reeve of the town in 1600-1. He died in 1609, his widow surviving him for twenty-one years. By her will she left certain property in Market Stead Lane, the rents of which were to be given to the poor and aged of the town at the discretion of the constables and churchwardens. On the widening of Market Street this property was sold to the Improvement Committee for £1,370, the balance of which was invested in the funds for the benefit of the poor. The income of the charity is now £45 6s. 0d., and along with the Collier charity is

distributed annually in half-crowns on Christmas Eve to about five hundred poor people, chiefly on the recommendation of the Superintendents of the City Police force. Nicholas Hartley left two sons, the second of whom, John, amassed very considerable wealth. He purchased Strangeways Park and Hall. About a year after he had purchased it, he was assessed to pay the sum of £13 6s. 8d. in connection with the extorted loans of Charles I. He was Constable of Manchester in 1630, borough reeve in 1631, high sheriff of the county in 1649, and in 1650 was a commissioner to the Church Survey. He was also one of Humphrey Chetham's trustees, promised £40 to the Rosworm Fund when the town was in straits, and the money raised in London in 1645 for the sufferers by the plague at Manchester was placed in his hands. He proved his claim for the second turn at the Conduit, and in 1638 he paid forty shillings towards its repair. He died in 1655, leaving one child, a daughter, Ellen Hartley, who married John Hartley, a member of another branch of the family, who had settled in London. In the return that Major General Worsley made as M.P. for Manchester, Hartley is described as "gentleman." He was one of those who signed the invitation to Henry Newcome to come to Manchester; and when Newcome settled there he was a frequent visitor to Strangeways, where on one occasion he, along with a party, went nutting. In 1605 he was appointed borough reeve, but nine years later a peculiar petition was sent to Lord Derby asking for his removal from the magisterial bench. When he entered his pedigree with Sir William Dugdale, he was described

as of "Strangeways, Esquire." Ellen Hartley died in 1662, but three years later John Hartley married again. He died in 1681, his second wife having died in 1676. He was buried in the Collegiate Church between his two wives. John, his eldest son, succeeded to the estate, but dying in 1703 without issue, he was succeeded by his brother, Ralph, who also died intestate and without issue. Ralph's personal effects were claimed by Ann Fowles, a cousin, who also took possession of the real estate. She only survived about a year, when the property descended to her daughter, Catherine Richards, a widow; who in turn died in less than two years. By her will she left the Strangeways estate to Thomas Reynolds, of London, his wife, Francis, their son, and their heirs for ninety-nine years. By her will, dated March 3rd, 1711, she directed that the persons who should be in possession of the devised estates should, out of the rents of houses in Manchester, pay £100 per annum for the relief of widows of decayed tradesmen in Manchester, and for instructing and apprenticing poor boys and girls in such manner and number as they, together with the warden of the Collegiate Church, should direct. The income of the charity is now £117 18s. 8d., and the annuities to poor widows, etc., are distributed under the directions of the Dean and Lord Ducie.

#### LATER OCCUPIERS.

Francis Reynolds, the son of Thomas Reynolds, was elected M.P. for Lancaster in April, 1745, and continued to represent the borough until his death in 1773. At the time of his death he was Clerk to the

Crown in the County Palatine and Provost Marshal of the Barbadoes. His son, Thomas, had married into the Ducie family, obtaining thereby the title of Baron Ducie. Like many other proprietors of Strangeways he died without issue, and was succeeded in his estates and title by his brother, Francis, M.P. for Lancaster, a captain in the Royal Navy, and who assumed the name and arms of Moreton. He was succeeded on his death by a younger brother, Thomas, who became the second Baron Ducie, and who died at Woodchester Park in 1785. After the estates passed to the Ducie family the Hall ceased to be occupied by the owners, who resided at Woodchester. The most notable of its later occupants was Joseph Hanson, an account of whom will be found in my third volume. At a later period most of the land having in the meantime been sold and covered with buildings, the Hall was divided into two houses. At one time the tenants were a Mr. Smith, who was a cotton broker and Dr. Goodman.

In the days of the Hartleys, Strangeways was a pleasant spot. The house, curious in appearance, but probably very commodious and comfortable to live in, stood surrounded by park land. Plantations studded the park at intervals, and at least one fairly extensive piece of woodland existed. Just behind the Hall was a rippling stream, running through a charming and well-wooded dell; and in several parts of the grounds were large lakes, the home of a great variety of fishes. In later years such of the lakes as survived were popular with skaters. The site of the last of the ponds was somewhere near to Dutton Street, and the

rippling stream is represented to-day by a portion of the prison buildings. Fifty years ago the last change was recorded in the history of the estate. Before giving the account of that last change it will be as well to refer to an interesting relic of Strangeways Park that has come down to our own day. The principal entrance to the park was through a set of gates of graceful design. It is said that John Hartley when owner of the park, purchased them in Rome, but corroborative evidence in support of the statement has not been produced. When Lord Ducie disposed of his Strangeways property in 1858, he presented the gates to the Salford Corporation, and to-day they grace the entrance to Peel Park facing Acton Square.



## STRANGWAYS.

### PART II.

#### THE ASSIZE COURTS.

In 1858 Manchester was constituted an Assize Town, and an Act of Parliament was passed, which stipulated for the provision in or near Manchester of "lodgings for the judges, officers, lock-ups, and all other necessary accommodation for holding criminal and civil assizes for the Hundred of Salford." Various plots of land within convenient distance from the centre of the city were available, but the choice of the authorities fell on the Strangeways estate, or a portion of it that still remained unbuilt upon. The Hall, together with 14,376 square yards of land were purchased. Competitive designs were sent in, the successful set of plans being those submitted by Mr. Alfred Waterhouse. Unlike many other buildings the Assize Courts seem to be admirably adapted for the purposes for which they were intended, and it has been stated that "it is doubtful whether there are in the kingdom at the present time (1878) any other courts so commodious and well arranged, or affording such ample accommodation for all who have business to transact."

The whole forms one of the finest specimens of architectural art to be found in the city. The front of the building in Great Ducie Street is 256 feet long,



and the depth along Southall Street is 166 feet long. Entering from Great Ducie Street by a handsome porch we are soon in the Great Hall, a room of fine proportions and splendid appearance. It is 100 feet long by  $48\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, and 75 feet high ; and although it is much smaller than Westminster Hall, it is reminiscent of it, and ranks as one of the finest Gothic apartments in the country. The building cost £100,000, and was opened in July, 1864, when the first assizes held in Manchester were presided over by the Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Alexander Cockburn, who was accompanied by the High Sheriff, Sir. J. P. Kay Shuttleworth. In 1868 the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions, formerly held at the New Bailey, were transferred to the Assize Courts.

#### GREAT DUCIE STREET.

Having dealt with Strangeways Park, let us now note a few stages in the history of the thoroughfare by means of which approach was made to it. What is now known as Great Ducie Street was a century ago, known as Strangeways Walk. It was entirely rural in appearance, green hedgerows, pasture fields, and corn fields, together with overhanging trees making it into a popular walking route for the townspeople. After Hunt's Bank had been left behind very few houses were to be seen. Past the Hall on the same side was Mount Pleasant, crowned by the pleasant village of Cheetwood. Black Moor Lane, Fairy Lane, and Broughton Lane were narrow, little-frequented country lanes. Opposite to the entrance to the Hall the road opened out into an almost semi-circular shape,

from which an avenue of trees provided a shady walk to the bank of the river Irwell.

Early in the century the lane began to lose its rural appearance. For many years it was a slow progress, but in the forties great changes took place. These were the outcome of an Act of Parliament passed in 1826 for the "making and maintaining a road from the top of Hunt's Bank, in the town of Manchester, to join the present Manchester and Bury turnpike road at Pilkington." The new road was opened on October 19th, 1831, and was called Great Ducie Street, after Lord Ducie.

Sixty years ago, although most of the land on the left hand side had been built upon as far as Langston Street, beyond that the buildings were few in number. Shelbourne Street giving access to Cheetwood, was only built up to a slight extent. From Shelbourne Street to the Grove Inn there were about eight houses on the right hand side of the road, and twelve on the left hand side.

#### THE STRANGWAYS BOWLING GREEN.

On the maps of a century ago we find a bowling green represented as being situated in the fields that lay between Strangeways Walk and the river Irwell. It was opened in the later part of the eighteenth century, and continued for about half a century. The following is a copy of the wording on a subscriber's ticket, as published in the *Manchester City News* for November, 15th, 1879.

"Strangeways New Bowling Green. Subscriptions

from May the 5th to October 27th, 1788, Thursdays excepted, 10s. 6d. Not transferable. No. 2.

*Proprietors*—  
MICHAEL NORTON.  
JAMES MEREDITH.  
THOMAS CRALLAN  
WILLIAM MAYALL.  
DAVID LAW.

The ground stood behind the Bowling Green Hotel, about a hundred yards past the Ducie Arms. The ground connected with the green extended as far as the river. The landlord for many years was David Law, and after his death his widow, Mary, kept the house. Her name appears in the directory for 1828. She became celebrated for making veal pies, and for some years the house was popularly known as the Veal Pie House. In those days, eighty years ago, Grammar School boys would often go into the country, as they called it, to fetch a veal pie for dinner.

Mr. Robert Wood to whom we are indebted for these notes, also gives some particulars concerning the proprietors whose names appear on the members ticket quoted above. Michael Norton was the agent of Sir Oswald Mosley, and collected his rents. James Meredith was the uncle of Mr. Meredith, law stationer, founder of the well-known firm of Meredith and Ray. Thomas Crallan was a brewer living at Ardwick, and was succeeded by his son who became a wealthy man, and left Manchester afterwards. William Mayall was an ironmonger in Cateaton Street. Mayall began business as an ironmonger in Cateaton Street in 1745, and continued in business until 1797, when the business

was transferred to Hutchinson and Mallaliew. The firm afterwards became Mallaliew and Lees, but in 1837 another change took place, the title becoming Lees and Lister. Later changes were to Lees alone, then Lees' executors, and afterwards Leech Brothers. The firm during all these years carried on business at the same address in Cateaton Street. After an association extending over a century and a half, the firm, now known as Leech Brothers & Co., removed a few years ago to Deansgate. David Law was father to Jack Law, a noted police court solicitor to whom reference has previously been made.

#### STRANGWAYS TOLL BAR.

When Great Ducie Street and Bury New Road were made a toll bar was erected near to where Salem Chapel now stands. It continued to be used until October 31st, 1859, when it was removed.

Three years later all Manchester was stirred by the murders perpetrated by William Taylor. On May 16th, 1862 he murdered Mr. Evan Mellor, land agent, in his office in St. James's Square. An examination of the murderer's house in Britannia Buildings, Strangways, led to the discovery that he had previously murdered his three children. The peculiar circumstances attendant on the murder of the children aroused a considerable amount of interest.



## CHEETWOOD.

### AN URBAN VILLAGE.

The title urban village is apparently a contradictory one, but I think I can show that as applied to Cheetwood it is quite correct. To the visitor of to-day the place has not the charm that it had for our grandfathers, but it remains yet a little community standing by itself. It is in reality a village in a town. From the heights of Cheetwood you look down upon the surrounding town, and from no part of the village can the view be described as picturesque. Brick crofts monopolise the view on the one side, whilst in the direction of the Bury New Road the outlook is over rows of uninteresting houses, whose blue slate roofs and smoking chimneys are a poor substitute for the expanse of gardens and fields that met the eye sixty years ago.

In those days, although brick making had made its appearance in the vicinity, Cheetwood was a pleasant place to live in. The tea gardens, which were about mid way through the village, was a popular place of resort in summer times. Loving couples would on Sundays and other holidays find their way thither, there to enjoy to a modified degree the pleasures of country life. Tea could be partaken of in the little summer houses that were dotted up and down the gardens, which were gay with numberless

flowers; and the air was sweet with the perfume of roses, pinks, carnations, mignonette, and other blooms. At midsummer the smell of new mown hay was wafted from the adjoining fields, and in the autumn the sight of golden grain waving in the breeze met the eye. In the orchards the currant and gooseberry trees bore many a fine crop of fruit; and when the summer was on the wane the overhanging branches of pear and apple trees offered abundant temptation to the juveniles of the hamlet. Tea taken amidst such surroundings was a delight to hundreds of town dwellers, who would often carry home with them to their cottages in over-crowded streets, souvenirs of their holiday in the shape of bunches of fragrant blooms. The village consisted of one street, which terminated in Dirty Lane, under which designation present-day residents will fail to recognise Elizabeth Street. Dirty Lane did not belie its name. It lived up to its reputation, and was known for one period at any rate, for the deepness of its cart ruts, which in winter time caused the lane to be a veritable slough of despond. It was originally nothing more than an occupation road giving access to the fields that bounded it, and the farms to which they belonged.

Amongst the better known of the residents in the village in those days were John Greenhalgh, attorney, of George Street; Joseph Willoughby, cotton and twist merchant, of Half-moon Court; and A. Ward, professor of music. Mr. Ward, as partner with Richard Andrews, carried on business in Spring Gardens as music dealers and teachers. Mr. Ward was appointed leader of the band at the Theatre Royal at the early

age of eighteen. His nephew, David Ward Banks, who served an apprenticeship with the firm, afterwards rose to a high position in local musical circles. As conductor of the Monday Evening Concerts, and conductor of the singing by 80,000 children in Peel Park on the occasion of the visit of Queen Victoria in 1857, he was well-known. John Fothergill, the engraver, many specimens of whose work still survive, and to whom reference was made when dealing with Market Street, resided there; and near to his house were the nursery gardens of John Knott. Charles Smith, a calico printer, was one of the honorary secretaries of the local branch of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and took a leading part in Church affairs. The Rev. Samuel Bradley, minister at various times at the Mosley Street and Cannon Street Independent Chapels was another resident. He married a member of the Bellhouse family, and soon afterwards resigned his position in the ministry.

The sale of the remaining portion of Strangeways Park, and the erection of the Assize Courts, did much to spoil the surroundings of Cheetwood, but the erection of streets of small houses sealed its fate. It still remains, but very few traces of its former attractiveness have survived. In spite of these facts it retains several features which differentiate it from the streets that surround it. A number of the houses stand in the midst of fairly extensive gardens, and others boast of a small patch of ground at the front. In contradistinction from present-day custom there is no attempt at uniformity so far as the houses are concerned. Some of them appear as though they

had been built in miniature. The entrances are low, and three storeys do not reach to a greater height than do two in more modern structures. The windows are filled with small panes of glass, and over many of the front doors are erected porches which in summer are usually covered with creepers. The architects of several of the houses have given a castellated appearance to the buildings by the erection of turrets ; and in front of one may be seen a number of pillars quite in the Grecian style. Certainly the pillars support an iron balcony ; and the whole has a somewhat grimy appearance. It is quite worth while spending half an hour in the village on a bright summer's day, if only to examine the houses in it. The visitor will notice the entire absence of flags and sets in the form of pavement. The amount spent annually on the maintenance of the highways must have been practically nil for many generations past. Overhead there is a respectable show of foliage, which in summer time, in spite of the smoke-laden atmosphere, gives a pleasant relief to the eye. Although the atmospheric conditions are against the cultivation of the finer varieties of plants, many of the commoner flowers flourish and many a garden is gay with colour. Vegetables seem to flourish ; and a few years ago I saw a crop of oats growing in a small field there. One of the few buildings in the village bearing a date is the old chapel with the inscription " Methodist Preaching House Sunday School, 1830 " cut in stone. The licensed houses in the village are quite in keeping with their neighbours. Up to the present no brewer has thought it necessary to erect one of those gaudy glaring buildings to be



found in every other part of the city. They are plain and unpretentious, and provide facilities for their patrons to indulge in skittles and quoits. What the future may have in store for Cheetwood is uncertain. The advance of brickmaking may result in the gradual removal of the two hills on which it is built ; or failing that, some speculative builder may secure a portion of the land, pull down the houses, and cover the site of houses and gardens alike with rows of cottages. Then the municipal authorities may see fit to pave the village street and the few secondary lanes. Within the last few years gas has been introduced into the village. Prior to that the residents relied for artificial light upon candles and lamps. A few street lamps now illuminate the village by night, and none can say what other changes the future may have in store for it.



## FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL.

### PART I.

Having traced the story of Hunt's Bank, Strangeways and Cheetwood, let us now make our way to Kersal. The races on Kersal Moor played so important a part in the life of the town for many years that no account of the growth of the town would be complete that did not include some reference to it. Without attempting anything like a detailed history of Broughton which would be beyond the limitations of the present volume, a few notes may be made.

Broughton is an old place name. Harland derives it from the Anglo Saxon "burg or burghtun," denoting a castle or fort dwelling; and seeing that a Roman road passed through the district, and that a Roman camp is believed to have occupied land near to Camp Street, the suggestion is in all probability the correct one.

One of the earliest references to Broughton that we have is in a fourteenth century document wherein we find that "Katherine, daughter of Adam de Banester" held Broughton from the Duke of Lancaster at a rental of 27s. per annum.

Three centuries later Broughton must have been a place of residence of some importance judging from certain indentures that have survived. Several of these are in the Peel Park Museum, and have reference

to the terms of tenure under which certain houses, etc., were let. In one dated 1663 we read that Ifardinando Stanley let to Henry Rowlinson, linen webster, of Broughton, a dwelling house, lands, and crofts situate in Broughton. The premises had been previously occupied by Edward Wirrall, butcher, and Edward Smylston, miller. The fields were known as Long Croft, The Hill, and Moor Close of One Acre. The sum of eight pounds was to be paid by Wirrall before the signing of the deed, and the yearly rental was to be eleven shillings and two pence, to be paid in equal instalments at the Feast of Pentecost and St. Martin's day. In addition, the following boons were to be paid. "One hen at the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, and the doing of half a day's loading of turves, with one able person with a turne cart, or turne wayne, to draw the same, at such time as shall be required; and also one able person to reap corn half a day in the time of harvest, and also to do a day's plowing at such time as is required." These are interesting reminders of feudal days and customs. The signature of the deed was witnessed by John Rydings, "scoolmaister" of Broughton; Thomas Heape, senior, yeoman of Pilkington; Robert Renold, and John Boardman. A later document (1714) refers to the lease of the holding referred to by Henry and William Rawlinson, sons of the linen webster, to Otho Bowers, wheelwright, of Prestwich. The holding is stated to comprise a dwelling house, barn, out-buildings, with the fold, garden, and orchard; and the annual rental was to be eleven pounds for a period of seven

years, together with the layes etc., mentioned in the earlier document.

Broughton was in those days a small cluster of cottages surrounded by farm land; and for many generations its growth must have been slow. Coming down to our own time we find that as recently as 1836 there were three farm houses standing between Strangeways and the "Griffin." Just past the "Griffin" was another farm house occupied by Thomas Johnson, whilst a little distance beyond were two more farmsteads. To talk of half-a-dozen farms standing in the lower part of the Bury New Road will sound to the resident of to-day as though one was romancing. But it should be remembered that with the exception of a few houses in Camp Street, Fenny Street and Great Cheetham Street, there were few houses, except on the main road. The back land was almost entirely farm land. The continuation of Great Cheetham Street that lay between the two roads to Bury was still known as Cow Lane. From below Murray Street to Northumberland Street there were only two houses on the right hand side of the Bury New Road, and about half a dozen on the opposite side. Leaving the description of the general appearance of this part of Broughton seventy years ago, reference may be made to several of the residents of that day.

One of the familiar landmarks in Lower Broughton at that time was Barge's Printworks, situated on the bank of the Irwell near to Broughton Bridge. The bridge had been erected in 1807 by Mr. Samuel Clowes. It was free to the tenants on his Broughton estate, but for many years a toll was levied on other persons.

using it. It was erected near the site of an ancient ford across the river. Barge's printworks adjoined the bridge. John Barge, senior, resided at Irwell House, Lower Broughton. John Fildes, who at one time was cashier for the firm, afterwards became M.P. for Grimsby; and Warwick Brookes, who afterwards became so famous in photographic circles, was employed there. The senior partner saw that the lad had a natural talent for drawing, and at once removed him to the department where his opportunity for development would be greatest, the designers', with results that were beneficial to both parties.

Richard Potter was another well-known name associated with Broughton in 1836. He was one of the founders of the firm of Potter and Norris. He took an active interest in the political affairs, and was elected M.P. for Wigan after the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832. His brother, Thomas, who was the first Mayor of Manchester, was knighted in 1840; and his nephew, John, received the honour of knighthood in 1851. The story of the rise of the firm is told in my first volume.

The names of Clowes has long been familiar to residents of Broughton. The most noteworthy member of the family was the Rev. John Clowes. He was the son of Samuel Clowes, who married Martha, daughter of John Tipping, of Ardwick, who gave the name to Tipping Street. The Clowes family owned a considerable amount of land in addition to the Broughton Hall estate. At one time they owned the site formerly occupied by the Prince's Tavern at the corner of Cross Street, and included in their property in the Quay

Street district were two fields bearing the curious names of "Purgatory" and the "Lyon's Den." John Clowes was born at Chorlton Hall, still standing at the bottom of Russell Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock. When Clowes was born there in 1776 the house was "a mansion situated in a park, with the river Medlock, then a clear trout stream, running through the grounds." Educated at the Grammar School he graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A. in 1799, and M.A. in 1805. Four years later he was appointed a Fellow of the Collegiate Church. In that year his brother Samuel, who had inherited the estates, was High Sheriff of Lancashire. He died without direct heir, and the Rev. John Clowes succeeded to the estates. In 1836 he gave the land on which St. John the Evangelist's Church is built, and subscribed liberally to the endowment. The church was opened on January 7th, 1838, but was not consecrated until October 5th, 1839. In 1833 Mr. Clowes resigned his Fellowship in the Collegiate Church, and was succeeded by the Rev. R. Parkinson, author of *The Old Church Clock*. He died in 1846, and was buried in St. John's Church, Broughton. At his death the estates passed to his third brother, Colonel Leigh Clowes.



## FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL.

### PART II.

#### KNOLLS HOUSE.

One of the best known houses that we pass on our way to Kersal, is the one known as Knolls House. It is interesting on its own account no less than on account of its builder. William Yates was the son of David Yates, a manufacturer of upholsterer's trimmings, Piccadilly, with whom he was a partner, becoming sole proprietor on the death of his father. It is not as a business man that we are concerned with William Yates, but as an antiquarian. He collected all manner of things that bore the hall-mark of age with the result that in addition to a number of articles of undoubted interest and value, he accumulated a large quantity of rubbish.

In 1822, when Market Street was being widened, two picturesque black and white houses that stood at the bottom of the street were sold. Yates purchased them, and had them carefully taken down. The materials were removed to Broughton, and the building was reconstructed on its new site. A portion of the Market Street site was added to the street, and on the remaining portion together with adjacent land Newall's Buildings was erected, famous in Manchester history as the home of the Anti-Corn Law League. In later years another change took place and when







KNOLLS HOUSE.

the Exchange was re-built, the site of Newall's Buildings was absorbed.

Yates filled the house, which was known as Yates's Folly, and was splendidly situated, with his treasures. Several of the rarer volumes of which he had copies he re-printed for private circulation in very limited editions. The reprints are now almost as rare as the originals. They included : *The Lamentable Vision of a Devoted Hermit, written of a sadly deceived soul and its body*. The book, which is dated 1813, is illustrated by some very gruesome woodcuts. In 1814 he printed forty copies of a thin volume with title : *The Five Wounds of Christ ; a poem, from an ancient parchment roll, by William Billyng, Manchester : printed by R. & W. Dean*. He also reprinted a very curious tract on the *Wonderful Child of Manchester*.

Yates was for some time the friend and customer of William Ford, the famous Manchester bookseller. Ford appears to have concluded that Yates was an unamiable and eccentric person who collected remnants of antiquity without discrimination or taste. In notes that he left Ford expresses strong opinions of his unsatisfactory customer, and said of him :—

“ This man of doubts, where'er you meet him,  
Believes you want to rob and cheat him ;  
And thus suspicious out of measure,  
He cheats himself of ease and pleasure.”

In another place he says of him : “ His perpetual dotage upon curiosities renders him one of the greatest of them. He collects all the curiosities he can light upon, not to inform his judgment or that of others, but to catch our admiration, which he believes he has

a right to, because rarities are his own . . . This gentleman is an antiquary, and has built himself a new-old house, which he is adorning after the same antiquated fashion, that is with things that were new about two centuries ago, but if older, the better ; and has so strange a natural affection for worm-eaten speculation that it is apparent he has a worm in his skull."

Such was Ford's description of William Yates who built Knolls House. Seven years after building it his library and other property were sold by auction, and he left Manchester. There is no record as to his after career, or where or when he died.

The next tenant of the house appears to have been the Rev. J. R. Beard, who conducted a school there before taking charge of the congregation of the Unitarian Chapel at Dawson's Croft. His advertisements as they appeared in the columns of the *Manchester Guardian* and *British Volunteer* would hardly appeal successfully to parents of to-day. In one of these he says : " The object which he (J.R.B.) proposes to himself is, in the first place, to complete the education of young gentlemen designed for business ; and, by a course of instruction in the most valuable departments of knowledge, to prepare them for the respectable discharge of the duties of active life. With a view to this object he introduces to the attention of his first class—selections from the higher Greek and Roman classics, which are read so as to awaken and form the taste, whilst they are made subservient to the enlargement of the historical knowledge of the pupils—the best writers on civil, ecclesiastical, biblical and literary history ; logic

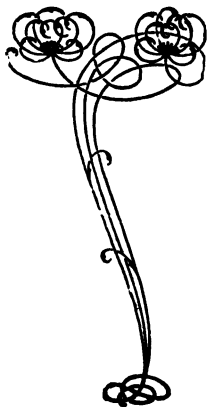
and the philosophy of the human mind ; rhetoric and criticism ; the principles of morals ; the evidences of natural and revealed religion ; political economy, and the elementary branches of science." Much more is said as to the education of the junior pupils.

Another tenant of the house was Mr. Humphrey Nichols. He was almost as eccentric in many of his ways as Yates his predecessor had been ; but his eccentricities took a very different direction. He was exceedingly liberal in the support he gave to local charities, and on many occasions gave notes to the value of several hundreds of pounds to a servant without envelope or other cover with instructions to give them to his master for some institution in which he was interested. It was believed that in his lifetime he gave away over £87,000. He was born in 1791, and as a minor purchased for the sum of £1,400 the position of Clerk to the Collegiate Church. He died in 1875. One more item concerning the old house should be quoted. In 1872 the property was offered for sale by auction, and the following description was given in the particulars of sale.

" This locally interesting Elizabethan residence, known at the time of its erection as ' Yates's Whim,' was built about fifty years since by that eccentric antiquary, the late William Yates, Esq., of Newton Street, Manchester, out of materials composing the several antiquated shops then (1822) being taken down for the widening of Market Street. Some of the rooms are wainscotted and adorned with scriptural and allegorical oak carvings obtained

from the Manchester Parish Church (then undergoing alterations) and other local sources. There are also several articles of carved oak furniture and fixings included in the sale of the house ; also an interesting local relic, the obelisk, erected in 1791 on the site of the old Exchange, where the present large lamp stands ; this was better known at the time as ' Nathan Crompton's Folly,' having been erected during his borough reeveship. This latter will be sold as a separate lot."

For some years the house has been occupied by a firm of furniture removers, whose vans drawn up on the land that once served as a garden, do not add to the picturesqueness of its appearance. Its previous tenant was Mr. La Fosse, a well-known photographer.



## FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL.

### PART III.

#### THREE PLEASURE RESORTS.

##### GROVE INN TEA GARDENS.

Although the surroundings of the Grove Inn to-day are not such that by any stretch of the imagination could be described as "rural" or "pleasant," matters were very different, as we have seen, seventy years ago. The following advertisement which appeared in the Manchester Guardian on July 28th, 1832 supplies us with some very interesting reading; and will serve to give us some idea of what that part of Broughton was like in those days:—

"Broughton Grove Inn Zoological Gardens. The inhabitants of Manchester and its neighbourhood are most respectfully informed that these rural and interesting gardens are now opened to the public. The proprietor, Joseph Lodge, begs leave to inform the gentlemen, subscribers, and others, that the bowling-green, billiard-room, and quoiting-ground are now in complete order, and will be set apart for their exclusive amusement every Wednesday and Friday; and to the public generally on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The ladies and younger branches of families will find in these retired gardens everything

that can contribute to their health and amusement. Tea, coffee, salad, fruit, etc., will be provided on the most reasonable terms. J. Lodge hopes by unremitting attention to the comfort of his visitors, keeping only the choicest wines and spirits, together with his home-brewed ale and London porter, etc., to make this the most pleasant lounge in the neighbourhood, being only one mile from town on the Bury New Road."

Mr. Lodge's nursery grounds and tea gardens have long since disappeared, although the Grove Inn serves to show us where they were situated.

#### THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

On May 31st, 1838, another pleasure resort on more extensive lines was opened. They were run by a company who ventured a large sum of money in the enterprise. They occupied nearly the whole of the land extending from Northumberland Street and Broom Lane, and they extended a considerable distance from the road. In addition to the usual attractions of the tea gardens of the day, the directors got together a small collection of animals which it was hoped would prove a great attraction to sightseers. In connection with these animals a serious mishap occurred on the occasion of the coronation of Queen Victoria. The event was recognised by great rejoicing in Manchester, a coronation ceremony being carried out at Ardwick Green. The various places of amusement in and around the town were thrown open free to all comers. At the Zoological Gardens a great crowd assembled, and manifested considerable interest in the animals that were on view. So great was the

crush round the lion's cage that a man was thrown against the bars. Instantly the lion made a spring, and before the victim could be dragged away, had so seriously mauled one of his arms that amputation was necessary. The following is a copy of one of the advertisements that appeared in the columns of the *Manchester Guardian*.

"Zoological Gardens, Manchester. The Board of Directors of the above establishment, in order to give all classes of society an opportunity of viewing the gardens and splendid collection of animals have concluded to open them during the following week, from the 31st of December, 1836 to the 5th of January, 1839, at half price. For adults, 6d ; Children, under twelve years of age, 3d.

"Officers will be stationed to prevent the intrusion of improper or disorderly persons."

It was of little avail. Public interest in the gardens was never really aroused, and after an existence of about four years they were closed. The directors and shareholders, it is said, lost all the money they had put into the venture. The animals and other properties connected with the gardens were sold by public auction on November 23rd, 1842 and the two following days, the auctioneer being Mr. Fletcher. Most of the animals were purchased by Mr. Jennison, who had opened his tea gardens in Hyde Road in 1836 ; and they formed the nucleus of the present collection at Belle Vue.

#### CASTLE IRWELL AND ITS RACES.

When the race meetings on Kersal Moor ceased



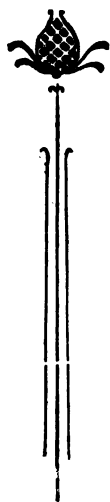
in 1846 there was a generally expressed opinion that Manchester race meetings were at an end. Various substitutes were suggested; Radcliffe Bridge races being one. Then a proposal was made to remove the meetings to Horwich Moor, where land was cheap; but the idea was not entertained. Newton did its best to attract the favourable consideration of the Manchester people by fixing its next races for Manchester's great holiday, Whit-week, but without result. White Moss and various other sites in the immediate neighbourhood of the town were considered, but were for various reasons rejected; and it began to look as though Manchester Races would be a thing of the past, when another plot of land close to Kersal Moor was named. Inquiry was made, terms were arranged, a lease was signed, the necessary alterations were made, buildings were erected, and on May 26th, 1847, the first race on the Castle Irwell course was run. It is interesting to note that the first race was for the Wilton Stakes, and the result was a dead heat between Louisa Newell and Meaux. Another special feature of the first meeting was the presentation of a handsome whip to the jockey riding the horse that won the first Manchester Trades' Cup run over the course. Sheraton won and George Simpson was the rider. After this came the presentation of a pair of silver spurs to Nat, the jockey who rode Lady Wildair, the winner of the first Salford Borough Cup on the course. A year later the same pair carried off the same prize. Lord Chesterfield, the owner of Lady Wildair, won the Borough Cup again in 1849, with Mrs. Taft.

The meetings continued to be held annually, few

incidents of note being recorded in connection with them until in 1853, when a presentation was made to a popular jockey. The present took the form of a service of silver plate bearing the following inscription : " Presented to Mr. Thomas Lye, senior jockey of England, by a few friends in Manchester, the place of his nativity, as a tribute of respect for his talent, high character, and long service upon the turf. Manchester, May 20th, 1853." Lye was born in Spinning Field, Deansgate, in 1795, and at thirteen was sent to a training establishment at Leyburn, Yorkshire. Three years later he entered the service of the Earl of Eglinton, with whom he remained for eight years, when he was engaged by Sir W. Maxwell. His first race at Kersal was in 1820, when he won. In his time he rode the winners of two St. Legers and three Oaks. He retired from the turf after the Manchester Races of 1853, and lived at his house at Middleham, Yorkshire, where he died on May 27th, 1866, aged seventy-one.

In 1857, in consequence of the large crowds visiting the Art Treasures Exhibition, the meeting was extended to four days, and a special race was arranged for the Art Treasures Exhibition Stakes. A serious accident marred the success of the race, for one of the competing horses, catching her leg against the rails, fell, and her rider, a boy named Jackson, fell under her. His collar bone was broken, but he recovered after being detained at the Infirmary for some weeks. In 1860 they celebrated the centenary of Kersal Moor Races by a public dinner. In this they were not quite correct, for they celebrated not the centenary of the commencement of the races but of their revival. In 1867

the lease expiring, and the landowner refusing to renew it, the race meetings were removed to New Barns. Thirty years later, in consequence of Ship Canal extensions the Castle Irwell site once more became the site of the Manchester race meetings.



## FROM STRANGWAYS TO KERSAL.

### PART IV.

#### THE OWNERS OF CASTLE IRWELL.

The Castle Irwell estate was formerly one of wide extent, stretching from Lower Broughton to Pendleton. When the estate was mentioned in the law courts two years ago, the owner Mr. Gerald Purcell Fitzgerald, in replying to questions made several interesting statements. He acknowledged that he had received hundreds of thousands of pounds from sales of land since his succession to the property in 1870. From 1900 to 1906 he had received nearly £60,000 from that source, including £40,000 paid by the racecourse company for their present course. Mr. G. P. Fitzgerald succeeded to the estate on the death of his uncle, John Purcell Fitzgerald, who in turn had succeeded his father in 1851. The last named was originally named Purcell, but marrying his cousin, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, who had descended from the Earls of Kildare, Purcell took the name of Fitzgerald. Both families were wealthy, Purcell's maternal grandfather having extensive estates in Ireland, Northamptonshire, and Suffolk. John Purcell Fitzgerald, the elder, very probably built the house known as Castle Irwell about 1826, and it, along with its terrace, was pulled down when the

estate passed to the Racecourse Company in 1900.

When Mr. Purcell Fitzgerald was in residence here he ventured in coal mining, sinking a shaft near Whit Lane. In the directories of those days we find the entries: "Fitzgerald, John, Esq., coal proprietor, Pendleton Colliery, Bolton Road," and "Fitzgerald, Peter, Esq., Irwell Castle, Pendleton." The scheme was a financial failure, and Fitzgerald lost a considerable sum of money. To meet the claims of his creditors it was necessary to sell the furniture of his favourite residence in Suffolk; in addition to which the splendid woodlands of the estate were denuded of their timber. His wife's property having been secured to her, the family soon recovered from their disasters; but the incident evidently hastened the death of the speculator. He was succeeded in his estates by his son, John Purcell Fitzgerald, who took up his residence at Castle Irwell. A younger son, Edward Fitzgerald, attained a high position in literary circles. His greatest work was the translation from the Persian of the *Rubāiyāt of Omar Khayyām*, the first edition of which appeared in 1859. It was nine years before the second edition was published, the third edition being printed in 1872, and the fourth in 1879. Edward Fitzgerald died in 1883, but another seven years passed before there was any general demand for his greatest work. Then in 1890 there came a change, and in the course of the next ten years fourteen editions were issued. Edward Fitzgerald's marriage with Lucy Barton, daughter of Bernard Barton, the poet, was followed with tragic results; and in itself appears to justify a remark made by him that "we Fitzgeralds are all mad." His

marriage in 1856 was followed a few months later by the separation of the pair.

If Edward Fitzgerald was eccentric, his brother John Purcell Fitzgerald was mad in comparison with him. He always took a deep interest in social matters, and movements calculated to improve the condition and position of the working classes. Not content with speaking at temperance gatherings, he delivered religious addresses to the members of his household and wherever he could secure an audience. His brother, Edward, who probably never visited Broughton, said of him on one occasion: "I wish my brother wouldn't always be talking about religion."

Mr. A. C. Benson in his *Life of Edward Fitzgerald* says: "When John preached, or even when he listened to sermons, he was accustomed to remove certain articles of dress such as boots and stockings, and put the contents of his pockets on the seats of the pew in order to make himself quite comfortable. At intervals during the discourse he would whistle shrilly, which was a sign of satisfaction. It would appear that he regarded his brother Edward as a vessel of wrath, yet made no serious attempt to convert him." In another connection he says: "In the early sixties John Fitzgerald was in a condition of high rhetorical fervour. Wherever he could get an audience to address he hurried thither. He was the despair of meetings at which he took the chair, because the chairman's address invariably consumed the whole of the evening, and whatever the subject of the lecture might be, John Fitzgerald spoke fervently of temperance and religion. He undressed himself on these occasions more industriously

than ever, hurled grease about, and knocked hats off pegs. John gave way to moods of deep melancholy, put a clock in every room at the Suffolk home at Boulge, yet whenever he desired to know the time he would ring for his valet to tell him. Yet all the while he continued to live like a man of position and fortune, kept many servants and horses, and criticised his brother Edward's slovenly wardrobe severely." "The difference between John and me," said Edward, "is this. He goes and does things that he knows nothing about—the most unheard-of things—and thinks he is perfectly right ; while I go to someone who understands and get advice, which, as a rule, to my misfortune, I don't follow." Small matter was it for wonder therefore, when it was made known that Mr. Fitzgerald had refused to renew the lease of a portion of his estate to the Racecourse Company. The pamphlet in which he explained the reasons for his action, which entailed a serious financial loss upon him, is now somewhat scarce. He died on May 5th, 1879 at Boulge Hall in his sixty-eighth year. Less than twelve years after his death the Manchester race meetings returned to Castle Irwell, not as tenants, subject to the caprice of a landlord, but as owners.



## KERSAL MOOR RACES.

### PART I.

To our grandfathers and to Manchester people for several generations before their day the annual races on the breezy upland of Kersal was a great institution. It was the one great holiday outing of thousands of people who, working for long hours in the mills and workshops of the town, made holiday on the three last days of Whit Week. In those days not only were holidays few and far between in the lives of the workers, but the modes of travelling were such that thousands lived and died in the town without having travelled further on any occasion than Kersal Moor. Little wonder, then, that the annual visit to the moorland was regarded in pretty much the same light as the annual week at Blackpool is regarded by the cotton operatives of to-day.

Manchester's connection with horse racing extends over a period of two hundred and sixty years. The earliest of the records have reference to races at Barlow Moor, where a meeting was held in 1647. It is not quite certain whether the races were held in those early years, at regular intervals; nor when the races first took place at Kersal. An announcement in the *Gazette* in 1688 notified that the sports at Carsall Moore would



take place in September instead of Whitsuntide, when two plates would be run for. From this it is evident that the date given by Axon in his *Annals of Manchester* (1730) is not correct. Few references to those early meetings appear to have survived; but from an entry in the Collegiate Church register we learn that a stranger from Leigh who was killed on Kersal Moor during the races was buried on the 9th of September, 1732.

Another error generally accepted is that owing to the efforts of Dr. John Byrom no races took place from 1745 to 1760. An advertisement in the *Manchester Magazine* for 1750 ran thus: "To be run for, on Kersal Moor, on Wednesday, August 1st, 1750, a purse of gold, by any horse that never won above £20 at any one time, fourteen hands, to carry nine stone, all above or under to be allowed weight for inches; the best of three heats, four times round the course to a heat; to pay 6s. entrance, to go to the second best horse. On Thursday, August 2nd, a purse of gold by any horse that never won £10; weights and heats as before; to pay 4s. entrance, to go to the second. On Friday, August 3rd, a purse of gold, by any horse that never won £30, matches excepted; to carry ten stone, saddle and bridle included; heats to pay 10s. entrance, to go to the second. Three reputed horses to start each day, or no race. All horses to enter and to be measured at the said Moor, on Monday, July 30th, or pay double entrance at the chair. To start each day at four o'clock. Any person (except subscribers) who shall bring malt liquor to the Moor to sell, shall pay 2s. 6d., such as bring wine or spirituous

liquors to pay 5s., other persons, having any kind of standing else, to pay 1s.

In a scrap book belonging to one of our public bodies are contained a number of broadsides and other interesting memorials of the history of the city. Amongst these are a few small crudely printed sheets which were issued in connection with the annual race meetings. They are lists of the horses entered for the various races, and bear the dates of 1741, 1769, 1774 and 1775.

As showing the nature of the sport in those days a quotation from the *Manchester Mercury* for 1760 may be made. Referring to the various races arranged we are told that "it is expected there will be great sport at the races here this week, there being nineteen horses already entered, and two more are expected to enter at the post." An interesting reminiscence is treasured at the Chetham library. It is a crudely executed picture depicting three horses in full career, running for the Whim Plate on Kersal Moor in 1763. Two years later Joseph Harrop was appointed the official printer of the race lists; and in 1766 the curious record was made that as a result of the "want of horses" no race took place on the middle day of the meeting. At that time the races were held in August, September, or October; but in 1772 a change was made, and Whitsuntide again became the recognised race week. Since then there has been no Whit Week in Manchester without its races.

The next change took place in 1792 when the meeting was extended to four days, and in 1793 and 1794 further change to five days was made. In 1792 it may also be noted that for the first time the stakes offered in

connection with a race were increased to one hundred pounds. Another feature of the races of those days was the fact that only one prize was run for each day, the running being in heats. In 1795 for the first time two prizes were run for on one day, and after a series of experiments the single race day was abandoned. With the opening of the new century new features were introduced, and the local newspapers began publishing the lists of entries as matters of information, and not as advertisements. In 1804 the name of Thomas Houldsworth first appeared in the lists ; and for a long series of years his entries were amongst the popular with the crowds that assembled on the Moor.

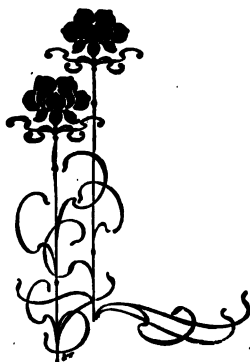
In 1816 the Gold Cup was offered for the first time, and in 1818 it was won by Mr. Houldsworth's Magistrate, only one other horse being entered. A year later the same owner's Rhadamanthus won with seven starters. By this time the annual carnival had established itself with the Manchester people, and year by year the crowds attending seemed to be ever on the increase. As they increased the value of the stakes offered also increased, with the result that more and better horses were entered year by year. The Gold Cup, as the Manchester Cup was then known, continued to be the principal trophy offered. The last races on the Moor were those of 1846, when in addition to four days' horse racing, Monday was devoted to foot racing. The closing meeting was marked by two accidents. In one case the front rails of two of the stands gave way in consequence of the great pressure, and from thirty to forty persons fell, but no one

sustained serious injury. In the other case a man named Byrne fell whilst riding in the Hurdle race on the Wednesday, and died on the following day.

Such is a skeleton of the history of the Kersal Moor races. The racecourse can be partially traced to-day. It was behind where the church stands, and extended over land on both sides of the road leading down to the vale. Proctor says that where the church stands Aunt Sally was formerly to be seen; and that the schools occupy the spot where would-be marksmen found opportunity for practice. On the opposite side of the road, on land now occupied by a portion of the hotel was the grand stand. The stand was erected in 1772, and we are told that its occupants "shone forth a pleasing sight to many thousands of spectators, in all the beauty of their sex, in all the gaiety of fashion, and with that delicacy of behaviour which inspires the heart." On July 4th, 1780 the following announcement was made: "The ladies' stand on Kersal Moor will be opened on Wednesday next for the accommodation of ladies and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood of Manchester, where coffee, tea, and chocolate, strawberries, cream, etc. will be provided every Wednesday and Friday during the strawberry season. By the public's most obliged and humble servant, Elizabeth Raffald." A year later Mrs. Raffald died.

A writer describing the appearance of the Moor after the transference of the races to Castle Irwell said: "The stands were allowed to stand no longer, the posts were made to cut their sticks, the distance chair and the seat of judgment were levelled to the

ground, and all the distinctive features of a racecourse were cleared away, save and except the grand stand, which still rears its head on high." The stand was used as a school for about fourteen years after the erection of the church in 1851 ; after which it was pulled down, the new schools having in the meantime been erected.



## KERSAL MOOR RACES.

### PART II.

#### SOME REMINISCENCES.

A few reminiscences of some visits paid to the races may be given now that we have disposed of the purely historical side of the institution. The first series will be a few extracts from R. W. Proctor's account of his first visit. He says: "My starting point was the Flying Horse, at Hunt's Bank—a horse that very soon afterwards took wing, and flew away, in order to accommodate the Victoria railway station. Mounting a short ladder a seat was secured in a spring cart which was filling slowly, for there were many rivals, and I had come early in my haste for happiness. While thus seated the drivers were brawling for fares to impatient pedestrians, who retorted by offering to back their own moving feet against the standing car; wandering list sellers, with outstretched arms and mouths, were loudly proclaiming the virtues of their correct cards, and rushing along the road, as if the buyers were always far ahead; dealers in walking sticks—rosy men from the country—were displaying their stores along the edge of the causeway, and sundry other sights and sounds, of a kindred character, impressed one with the idea that the race-course and the avenues thereto contained all the boisterous felicities of life." . . . "My reveries were

disturbed by the sharp cracking of a whip, as the horse bounded on its journey. Quickly passing Strangeways Hall, whose hanging woods will ultimately give place to hanging criminals; and also Fairy Lane, bereft of every fairy flower, we were trotted over the Roman road, which road I never could trace, except on the painted sign, or in the pages of Whitaker. On leaping from the conveyance that had borne me merrily along, I suddenly became lost in the stream of eager people that pressed down the sandy lane to the course." After this he described a row of mendicants, the side shows, the stalls and the other accompaniments of the races, and finally the races.

Another writer describes the occasion thus: "The race days were Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in Whitsun week. Soon after eight o'clock in the morning the people began to start for Kersal Moor, or 'Karsay Moor,' as the people called it. The chief way for foot passengers led through the old churchyard, then along Hunt's Bank (then a crooked, narrow steep street, where there was always a most offensive smell, for a soap boiler and a tallow chandler had works in it), Strangeways and Stony Knolls, close to the Moor. The number kept increasing till twelve o'clock, when the crowd was at its height, and people could not get down Hunt's Bank without jostling each other. No horses or vehicles were allowed to go this way, for the Stony Knolls (an old Roman road) was reserved for foot passengers. The coaches, carts, and vehicles of all descriptions, from donkey carts to the Trafford's large yellow carriage went round by Cheetham Hill." This is somewhat at variance with

Procter's statement. "I remember one old sporting character came in a carriage made of basket work, similar to a crate in which earthenware is packed. Many thousands were on the moor at one o'clock, for at least two-thirds of the population of Manchester were there, besides a large percentage of the inhabitants from the towns and villages within a radius of fifteen miles.

The grand stand was filled by the aristocracy of the neighbourhood, and the other ten or twelve stands were crammed by the middle classes. The working people took possession of the edge of the course—eight or ten deep—but the bulk of the crowd was on a hill situated in the centre of the ground.

"As soon as the horses made their way towards the starting post, 'hats off' became the general cry. Presently, 'they are off!' burst from ten thousand throats. It was a curious sight to see the stretched-out necks and eager faces of the thousands on the opposite hill gradually turning round as their eyes followed the horses. As the horses turned the corner the excitement became extreme, and if green and gold happened to be first the enthusiasm knew no bounds. Green and gold were Mr. Houldsworth's colours. He was a jolly old bachelor who lived in Portland Street where the Queen's Hotel now stands. The people would back 'Tommy Ouldsworth's' horses against all comers. The races over, the return home commenced. Every man who had not a woman or girl on his arm had to run the gauntlet of chaff. 'Ah! ah! thee shall never goo again,' was dinned into his ears all the way, and the unfortunate man on passing



through Hunt's Bank and the churchyard would receive rougher treatment still; and any poor woman who ventured to pass through the crowd there without a male attendant would have her bonnet, cap, and gown torn to tatters. This went on from seven to eleven at night. Thursday was the Cup day and attracted many people, but Friday, the last day, was always the most crowded by country people." Such is a picture, not an exhilarating one, of Manchester on race days in the days of "Karsay Moor" races.

As might have been expected more than one of our local rhymesters produced effusions dealing with the popular institution. A specimen or two may be quoted. The first was composed by Ryley of *Itinerant* fame.

#### RYLEY'S RAMBLE.

(from the Land o' Cakes to the Land of Cotton) or the Humours of Manchester Races.

"Since last I trod upon this ground I've traversed sea and lands,

But now I am, bad money like, return'd upon your hands;  
I've beat my brains for little gains, thro' north, south, east  
and west,

And found at last, home all surpass'd, believe me 'tis no  
jest.

(Spoken). Jest? no! 'Tis a very serious matter to be running up and down the world, like a Will-o-the-Wisp, here a little and there a little, always in the wrong place; and for my part I've grown as small as pin-wire; dang it, thinks I, there's better doings than this at Manchester Races, pretty pickings, ordinary dinners—

They'll eat and they'll drink at a pretty pace,  
Bridgewater, Bull's Head i' th' Market Place,  
White Horse and Spread Eagle, Hanging Ditch,  
Landlords are all growing very rich;

Then to Manchester Races we'll go.

What fiddling, fighting, bull-baiting, I've seen at Eccles Wakes,  
But no such pretty sport you'll find thro' all the land o' Cakes ;  
The bagpipes play, they dance away, the lads and lasses rosy,  
And when all's done, there's better fun at Pendleton Pour  
Posey.

(Spoken). Ah ! mon, do ye ken the New Toon at Edinbro'  
and the College of Physicians ? Aye, man, says I, but look  
at the town of Manchester and the College, near the old church-  
yard ; then for physicians, haven't we the Whitworth doctors ?  
Then for your fine streets

There's Church Street, High Street, Rook Street,  
Pall Mall, Piccadilly, and Duke Street,  
Hanging Ditch, Hyde's Cross, and Burner Street,  
Garratt Lane, Toad Lane, and Turner Street,  
Then to Manchester Races we'll go.

'Tis said that learning may be had by wholesale in the north,  
And wisdom there is cheaper far than England can bring forth ;  
For there's preaching cheap, and teaching cheap, and poets  
of great fame,  
They'll threap me down, in our town, there's none can do  
the same.

(Spoken). Yes, but we can, though. We can work all this  
by steam, and more than that, we can rock the cradle, roast  
beef, and scrape potatoes by steam ; and by and bye I dare-  
say :—

Parsons will preach by a steam engine,  
Doctors will bleed by a steam engine,  
Soldiers will shoot by a steam engine,  
Kill Bonaparte by a steam engine ;  
Then to Manchester Races we'll go.

Such crowds of folk together met, sure ne'er were seen before,  
From all the country round about, to the races on Karsey  
Moor ;  
From Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton, too, as throng as Smithy  
Door ;  
From Chorley and Chowbent a few, likewise from Cockey  
Moor.

(Spoken). Barrel cyder, barrel cyder, fourpence a quart,  
two pence a pint, and a penny the half-pint. Bowl-up, bowl-  
up, civil Will, alls in the well ; hit your legs, and miss my pegs.  
Whirl about, round about Kitty Fisher. Hackney coaches, a  
halfpenny a ride. Walk in, walk in, ladies and gentlemen,  
see the old lion from Bengal, the African tiger, and the wild  
man of the wood. Show him up, show him up ; mine's the best

show ; none of your wild beastesses, for here's Mr. Punch and his merry companions, Jane Shore, the Devil, and the baker. How d'ye like it, sir ? Like it ? Why it's all a pack of stuff. There, there, the gemman says he likes it, Ah ! Ah ! Ah ! Then to Manchester Races we'll go ! "

With another song we must bring our gossip on Kersal Moor Races to a close.

Jone's ramble fro' Owdham to Karsy-Moor Races,  
by Michael Wilson.

" Come Dick, an' Nan, an' Davy,  
An' sit yo' deawn be me awhoile ;  
An' Sal, an' Mal, and Lavy,  
Aw'll tell yo' a tale 'll mak yo' smoile ;  
For aw've just come fro' Karsy Moor,  
Wi' uncle Dan and mony moore,  
'Twere cover't o'er wi' rich an' poor ;  
Aw never seed sich seets afoore.

Here " S and G " they 'rn croyink ;  
Theer's " Hit-meh legs and miss meh pegs ! "  
Here " yeads and tails " wur'n floyink ;  
And theere owd " garter " runs his rigs ;  
Here's lottery for cakes and fruit,  
An' theere teetotum twirls abeawt.  
Wi' mony things ot's miss't ; meh-theawt,  
Sich games owd Nick ne'er yet fun eawt.

" Bowl up for barril 't soyder,"  
Loike thunder leawd they next did croy ;  
Just then, noant Nan, aw spoy'd her  
Hoo'r sellink nuts—" Come, toss or buy."  
Aw'r gooink t'ax wot hoo did theere,  
When uncle Dan bawl't i' meh ear,  
" Let's goo an' have a quart o' beer,  
An' sister Nan shall have her sheer."

" We strudden't o'er the gorses,  
An' went to th' sign o' th' ' Mon i' th' Moon,'  
An' theere a list o' th' horses,  
An' one o' th' sportink ladies coome ;  
An' whoile aw'r readink which ud win,  
Aw spoy'd owd Punch, wi' his lung chin,  
An' his woife, Joan, wur drubbink him,  
' Ecod,' said aw, ' we'll o' goo in.'

"Neaw th' stonds begun o' fillink,  
 'Walk up, Walk up,' the owners croy'd;  
 They axed meh for a shillink,  
 Boh aw took meh o'er to th' great hill soide.  
 An' neaw the horses made a start,  
 Oych mon o'tit-back play'd his part;  
 It pleast meh to meh very heart—  
 Eaw'r Doll ne'er went so fast i' th' cart.

"Neaw the horses had done runnink,  
 An' nowt boh shows wur left to see;  
 Aw'd seen Punch at th' begginnink,  
 An' that wur quoite enuff for me;  
 So aw bout plumcakes, filled wi' plums,  
 Mich bigger far nor my two thumbs,  
 Hot cakes, fruit tarts, an' Chelsea buns,  
 Meh pockets they wur fill'd wi' crumbs.

"Noant Nan hoo fell to sellink,  
 An uncle Dan to drinkink went;  
 An 'aw begun o' smellink  
 'Ot they wur noather want nor scant.  
 For beef an' mutton thick aw spoy'd,  
 An' veal, an' ham on every soide,  
 Meh guts croy'd 'Cubbert'—'Zouks,' aw croy'd,  
 'Aw'll sit meh deawn an' stuff meh hoide.'

"Neaw folks begun o' shiftink,  
 An' fun meh in a weary cale,  
 Aw scarce could stir for riftink,  
 Aw'r grown so fat wi' cakes an' ale;  
 Boh eh! hew thrunk! one scarce could pass;  
 Some drunk, some sober, most beawt brass;  
 An' some wi' two black een, by th' mass;  
 Whoile others lay asleep i' th' grass.

"At last th' owd gronnam's reachink,  
 Hoo glendur't at meh through a ring,  
 An' stearted up a preachink,—  
 'Eh, Jone! theaw'rt an' ungodly think.'  
 Boh when meh story aw did tell,  
 Her meawth stood woide as eaur six-bell;  
 'By th' maskins, Jone, theaw'st pleost meh well,  
 Ecod, aw'll goo next year meh-scl'!"

## KERSAL MOOR.

### A FEW LOOSE STRINGS.

#### A GIBBET.

Records exist relative to two cases of wrongdoers being executed on the gibbet on Kersal Moor. The first of these was James Macnamare, who had broken into the house of Thomas Cheetham near Stretford, and had stolen therefrom three waistcoats, two silk handkerchiefs, and other articles, together with about £8 in cash. He was tried at the assizes at Lancaster, and was afterwards taken to the New Bailey Prison. Attended by a chaplain and a number of officers he was taken to Kersal Moor and was there executed on a gibbet that had been erected on a small hill near to the grand stand. This was on September 11th, 1790. There is no evidence as to how long the body was allowed to remain exposed. Seventeen years later a curious record was made. A prisoner in the New Bailey named James Massey, committed suicide in prison, and his remains were buried near to the "distance chair" on Kersal Moor. For a reason not given the body was afterwards taken up and re-interred in the ditch that ran along Cross Lane close to the spot where Grindrod had been gibbeted years before; but this was not final, for a further change was made,

and the body was buried in the roadway near to the Salford weighing machine. One is at a loss to account for this action on the part of the authorities.

#### VOLUNTEER REVIEWS.

The breezy moorland has on several occasions been the scene of military displays. One of the most important of these took place in 1796, when not only Manchester, but the surrounding towns took part in the movement that resulted in the raising of volunteer regiments in all parts of the country. There was a general feeling of uneasiness, and amongst the working classes there was a notion that the French nation was about to swoop down upon the land. "The French" were regarded in pretty much the same light as was Napoleon a few years later. The first lines of *Jone O'Grinfilt* embodied the ideas held by thousands of people in quiet country places. They are :—

" Says Jone to his woife on a whot summer's day,  
' Aw'm resolvt i' Grinfilt no lunger to stay ;  
For aw'll goo to Owdham os fast os aw can,  
So fare thee weel Grinfilt, an' fare thee weel, Nan ;  
For a sodger aw'll be, an' brave Owdham aw'll see,  
An aw'll ha'e a battle wi' th' French."

One can understand, therefore, that when the Rochdale, Stockport, and Bolton volunteers were reviewed on Kersal Moor on August 25th, 1796 there would be a large attendance of interested spectators.

In 1812 the moor was again the scene of military operations, which on that occasion were on a more ambitious scale. For the greater part of the summer the Wiltshire, Buckinghamshire, Louth, and Stirling

regiments of militia were encamped there. They numbered about 3000 men, and were reviewed by General Ackland on June 4th. On August 12th the Duke of Montrose visited the camp, and on a broadside in the Greaves' collection we read that the occasion being the "natal day" of H.R.H. the Prince Regent, 10,000 men were to take part in the operations, which were to be enriched with flying artillery, "and a sham fight." The reference to military affairs reminds me that on July 9th, 1804, Major Shakespeare Phillips, commander of the Manchester and Salford Volunteer Cavalry met a Mr. Jones, who was a private in the same corps, in a duel on the Moor; and that on the 25th of the same month John Leigh Philips and Colonel Hanson met for the same purpose, but were arrested and bound over to keep the peace.

#### CHARTIST DEMONSTRATIONS.

On September 24th, 1838 the Chartists, who were engaged in their struggle for the policy embodied in what was known as the six points of the charter, held a meeting on the Moor. The *Morning Post* estimated the number of persons who were present at 300,000; a figure which was undoubtedly very much exaggerated. The speakers included the Rev. James Rayner Stephens, and Mr. Fergus O'Conner, M.P.; Bronterre O'Brien was elected to represent Manchester at the convention that met in London in February, 1839.

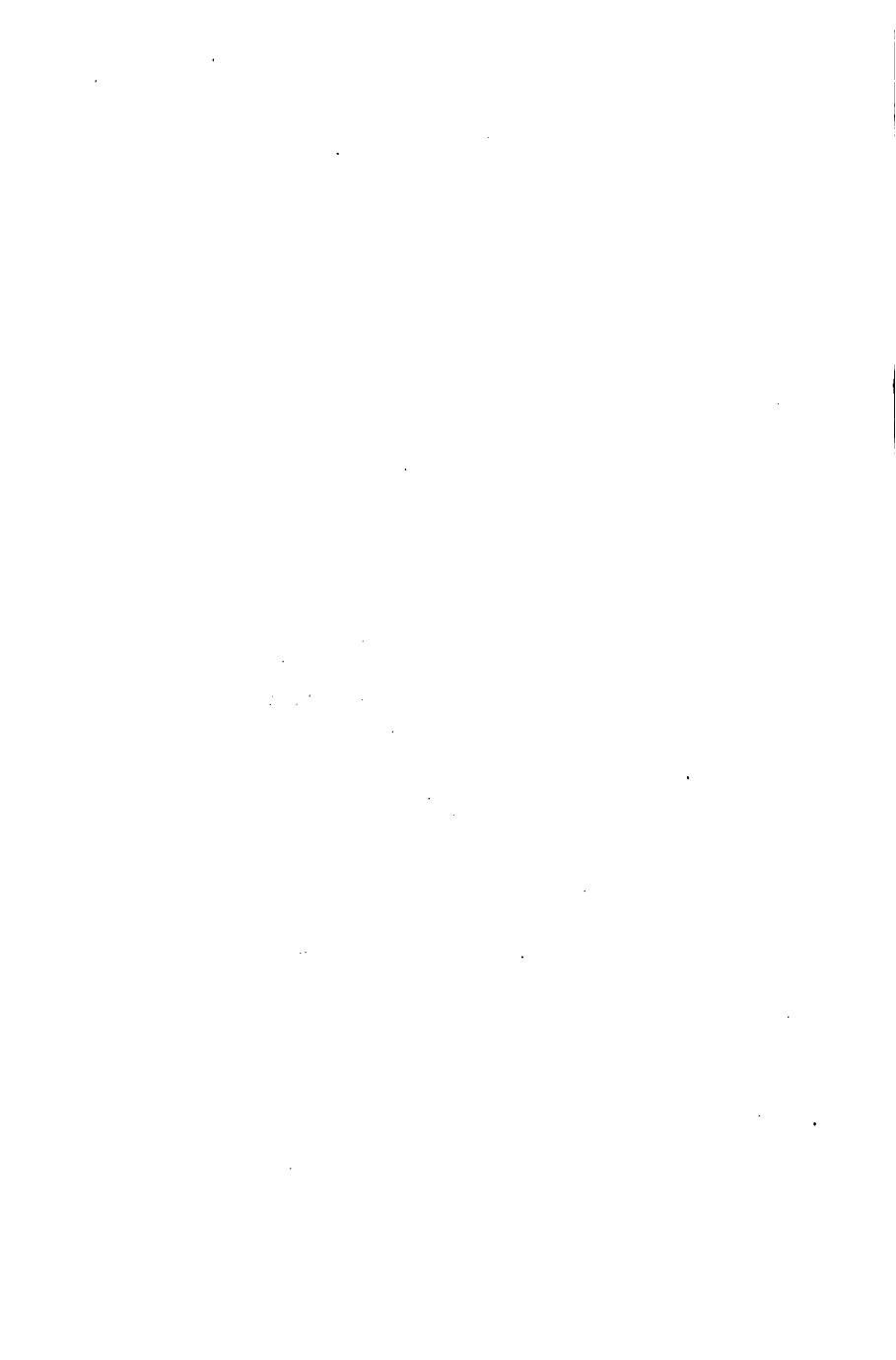
Another great gathering of Chartists took place in 1839, when a larger number of persons met. Several other minor political gatherings were held on the

Moor, but it never became popular as a meeting place for great crowds except in the case of the races.

With this I will close my notes on Kersal Moor ; leaving the stories of Kersal Hall and Kersal Cell to a future occasion.







# INDEX.

	PAGE.
Abrahams, Rev. Abraham ... ..	127
Ainsworth, Jeremiah ... ..	82
Ainsworth, Thomas ... ..	82
Ainsworth, W. Harrison ... ..	82
Alms Houses, Miller Street ... ..	94
Aldport Lodge ... ..	3
<i>Annals of Manchester</i> , by Timperley ... ..	26
Ardwick Green Industrial School, Origin of the ... ..	117
Arkwright, Richard ... ..	97
Ashley Lane, Stopping of stiles in ... ..	102
Assize Courts, Erection of the ... ..	169
Bakehouse, The lord's ... ..	49
Balloon ascent by Sadler ... ..	57
Balloon Street, origin of name ... ..	57
Bamford, Daniel ... ..	67
Bamford, Sam ... ..	66
Banks, D. W. ... ..	176
Barge, John ... ..	182
Barge's Printworks ... ..	181
Baxendale, Laban ... ..	99
Beard, Rev. J. R. ... ..	158-159-186
Bennion's Elizabeth, Charity ... ..	90
Bent's Elizabeth, Charity ... ..	90
Bexwicke, Hugh ... ..	42
Bexwicke, Joan ... ..	42
Bradley, Rev. Samuel ... ..	176
Brooke Herford, Rev. ... ..	159
Brooks, Warwick, Photographer ... ..	182
Broughton deeds for 1663 ... ..	180
Broughton in 1836 ... ..	181
Broughton Bridge built ... ..	181
Broughton, Origin of name ... ..	179
Broughton Zoological Gardens ... ..	190
Burial Ground, Angel Meadow ... ..	104
Burial Ground near Chetham College ... ..	147

---

Burial Ground, Walker's Croft	...	...	...	...	147
Byrom, Dr. John	...	...	...	...	23
Cambden, William, in Manchester	...	...	...	...	3
Castle Inn, The	...	...	...	...	138
Castle Irwell Races	...	...	...	...	191
Castle Irwell, An eccentric owner	...	...	...	...	195
Cathedral Schools	...	...	...	...	89
"Catt's Pallett," A child's game	...	...	...	...	135
"Cato" performed at the Grammar School	...	...	...	...	48
Cellar, Vaulted, in Old Millgate	...	...	...	...	22
Charter granted to people of Mamecestre	...	...	...	...	31
Charter Street Ragged School	...	...	...	...	116
Chartist's Demonstration at Kersal Moor...	...	...	...	...	214
Cheap railway travelling begun	...	...	...	...	151
Cheetwood	...	...	...	...	174
Chetham's Hospital	...	...	...	...	30
Chetham, Humphrey	...	...	...	...	33
Child's Game, An ancient	...	...	...	...	135
Chorlton Hall in 1776	...	...	...	...	183
Chorlton Rant, The	...	...	...	...	97
Clowes, Rev. John	...	...	...	...	182
"Cocking" by Grammar School boys	...	...	...	...	46
Collegiate Church, The	...	...	...	...	32
Collegiate Church Charity School, The	...	...	...	...	89
Co-operative Wholesale Society, The	...	...	...	...	111
Corn Mill on the Irk	...	...	...	...	42
Cotton Mill in Miller Street	...	...	...	...	97
Crallan, Thomas	...	...	...	...	172
Culcheth Hall	...	...	...	...	50
Curiosities in Chetham Hospital	...	...	...	...	36
"Dangerous Corner"	...	...	...	...	88
Darrah, Charles	...	...	...	...	100
Dawson's Croft Chapel	...	...	...	...	158
Dirty Lane	...	...	...	...	175
Drake, Madam...	...	...	...	...	55
Drake, Squire	...	...	...	...	55
Duel at Kersal Moor	...	...	...	...	214
Ducie Family and Strangeways	...	...	...	...	167
Earnshaw, William	...	...	...	...	74
Exchange Station built	...	...	...	...	149
<i>Festive Wreath, The</i>	...	...	...	...	78-81
Fildes, John	...	...	...	...	182
Fishing in the Irk	...	...	...	...	139
Fitzgerald, Edward	...	...	...	...	196

Fitzgerald, John Purcell	...	...	...	...	195
Flemish Weavers, Flight of, to England	...	...	...	...	54
Floods in the Irwell and Medlock	...	...	...	...	141
Flood of 1616, The	...	...	...	...	141
Flood of 1648, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1787, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1804, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1816, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1837, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1838, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1843, The	...	...	...	...	142
Flood of 1852, The	...	...	...	...	143
Flood of 1866, The	...	...	...	...	143
Flood of 1872, The	...	...	...	...	143
Food Riots	...	...	...	...	43
Ford across the Irk	...	...	...	...	162
Footpaths dispute in 1587	...	...	...	...	52
Fulling Mill in Ancoats, The	...	...	...	...	42
Fulling Mill on the Irk, The	...	...	...	...	42-146
Fustians, Making of	...	...	...	...	6
" Gate " in Place Names	...	...	...	...	17
Gentlemen's Glee Club, The...	...	...	...	...	81
Gibraltar	...	...	...	...	105
Gilbert, A. T., Bishop of Chichester	...	...	...	...	86
Gill, Robert, builder of Palatine Hotel	...	...	...	...	138
Grammar School, Extension of the	...	...	...	...	45
Grammar School, The foundation	...	...	...	...	41
Grammar School Mills, The	...	...	...	...	42
Grammar School rebuilt, The	...	...	...	...	45
Great Ducie Street	...	...	...	...	170
Great Synagogue, The	...	...	...	...	128
Grelle, Thomas	...	...	...	...	31
Grove Inn Tea Gardens, The	...	...	...	...	189
Hall's Charity, Miss	...	...	...	...	157
Hanging Bridge, Meaning of	...	...	...	...	5
Hartley Charity, The...	...	...	...	...	164
Hartley John, ...	...	...	...	...	164
Hartleys of Strangeways, The	...	...	...	...	164
Hassall, Thomas	...	...	...	...	92
Hassall, William	...	...	...	...	92
Haworth, Abraham	...	...	...	...	56
" Hell-Bank "	...	...	...	...	103
Hindley, Job	...	...	...	...	108
Houldsworth, Thomas	...	...	...	...	202-207
House of Correction, The	...	...	...	...	134
Howard, John, in Manchester	...	...	...	...	137

Hulme Hall ... ..	3
Hulme, Ralph ... ..	42
Hunt's Bank Burial Ground ... ..	147
Hunt's Bank about 1774 ... ..	132
Hunt's Bank in 1650... ..	131
Hunt's Bank, Origin of name ... ..	130
Hunt's Bank Prison ... ..	134
Hunt's Bank Station opened ... ..	149
Incorporation Scheme, An early ... ..	96
Irk, Origin of name ... ..	140
Irk, The River... ..	139
Jacobites, The ... ..	23
"Jail-Tax" in 1852 ... ..	153
James, the Seventh Earl of Derby ... ..	32
Jewish Graveyard, A ... ..	127
Jewish Synagogue in Ainsworth's Court ... ..	125
Jewish Synagogue in Garden Street ... ..	124
Jewish Synagogue, The Great ... ..	128
Jewish Synagogue in Halliwell Street ... ..	127
Jews in Manchester, The ... ..	125
John, the Evangelist's Church, St.... ..	183
Johnson, Thomas ... ..	121
Kersal Moor, Chartists' Demonstration on ... ..	214
Kersal Moor, Duel on ... ..	214
Kersal Moor Gibbet, The ... ..	212
Kersal Moor Grand Stand ... ..	203
Kersal Moor Races ... ..	199
Kersal Moor Reminiscences ... ..	205
Kersal Moor Races, Ryley's Song on ... ..	208
Kersal Moor Races, Wilson's Song on ... ..	210
Kersal Moor, Volunteer Reviews on ... ..	213
Knolls House, Broughton ... ..	184
Knolles House, near Walker's Croft ... ..	162
Ladies' Jubilee School, The ... ..	156
Land tenure, Curious terms of ... ..	180
Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co. formed ... ..	149
Lang Ben ... ..	92
Langley Hall ... ..	50
Langley, Robert ... ..	50
Lawson, Charles ... ..	45-48
Leech Brothers, Ironmongers ... ..	173
Lee, Annie, Foundress of "The Shakers." ... ..	90
Leeds and Manchester Railway, The ... ..	149
Leland's Account of Manchester ... ..	1

Literary Association, The	...	...	...	...	...	76
Liverseege, Henry	...	...	...	...	...	81
Lye, Thomas, Jockey...	...	...	...	...	...	193
Manchester Commerce, Beginnings of	...	...	...	...	...	54
Manchester Cottons in 1582...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Manchester Cottons in 1613	...	...	...	...	...	6
Manchester Cottons in 1745	...	...	...	...	...	14
Manchester in 1538	...	...	...	...	...	1
Manchester in 1582	...	...	...	...	...	3
Manchester in 1641	...	...	...	...	...	8
Manchester in 1697	...	...	...	...	...	8
Manchester in 1725	...	...	...	...	...	11
Manchester in 1745	...	...	...	...	...	13
Manchester Trade in 1613	...	...	...	...	...	4
"Manchester Arms," The	...	...	...	...	...	56
Manchester Medical Mission, The	...	...	...	...	...	110-120
Manchester and Salford Reformatory, The	...	...	...	...	...	118
Marsden, Rev. William	...	...	...	...	...	104
Massey, John, Composer	...	...	...	...	...	98
Massey, Randall	...	...	...	...	...	102
Mayall, William	...	...	...	...	...	172
Mayes, Edward	...	...	...	...	...	94
Mayes' Charity, The	...	...	...	...	...	94
Meacham, Edward, Surgeon...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Meredith, James	...	...	...	...	...	172
Michael's Church, St.	...	...	...	...	...	28-103
Mill Brow	...	...	...	...	...	26
Miller's Lane	...	...	...	...	...	93
Miller Street	...	...	...	...	...	93
New Bridge Street in 1793	...	...	...	...	...	152
Nichols, Humphrey	...	...	...	...	...	187
Nicholson, Thomas	...	...	...	...	...	79
Norton, Nicholas	...	...	...	...	...	172
Old Greave Hall	...	...	...	...	...	50
Oldham, Hugh, Founder of the Grammar School	...	...	...	...	...	40
Old Millgate, Origin of name	...	...	...	...	...	17
Ordsall Hall	...	...	...	...	...	3
Palatine Buildings erected	...	...	...	...	...	138
Palatine Hotel erected	...	...	...	...	...	138
Palatine Riding School	...	...	...	...	...	138
<i>Passages in the Life of a Radical</i>	...	...	...	...	...	66
"Peterloo"	...	...	...	...	...	67
Prince, John Critchley	...	...	...	...	...	68
Prisoners in 1787, Treatment of	...	...	...	...	...	137

"Poets' Corner, The"	...	...	...	...	...	73
Potter, Sir John	...	...	...	...	...	182
Potter, Richard	...	...	...	...	...	182
Potter, Sir Thomas	...	...	...	...	...	182
Procter, R. W.	...	...	...	...	...	62
Quincey de, Thomas, at the Grammar School	...	...	...	...	...	45-84
Railway Station at Oldham Road	...	...	...	...	...	148
Railway Station opened, Exchange	...	...	...	...	...	149
Railway Station opened, Hunt's Bank	...	...	...	...	...	149
Red Bank	...	...	...	...	...	107
Red Bank Medical Mission	...	...	...	...	...	110
Reynolds, Francis	...	...	...	...	...	166
Reynolds, Thomas	...	...	...	...	...	166
Richards' Charity, Catherine	...	...	...	...	...	166
Richardson, George	...	...	...	...	...	79
Ridings, Elijah...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Roberts, Lewis, in Manchester in 1641	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rogerson, John Bolton	...	...	...	...	...	78
Romans, The, in Manchester	...	...	...	...	...	30
Rose, Robert	...	...	...	...	...	78
Rothschild, N. Meyer...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Rushcart, A Manchester	...	...	...	...	...	57
Ryley's Song on Kersal Moor Races	...	...	...	...	...	208
Sadler, James, Balloon ascent by	...	...	...	...	...	56
Scholes, John	...	...	...	...	...	79
Scotland...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Scotland Bridge	...	...	...	...	...	106
"Shakers, The," Origin of	...	...	...	...	...	90
"Shudehill Fight"	...	...	...	...	...	43
Siege of Manchester	...	...	...	...	...	18
Simpson's Factory in Miller Street...	...	...	...	...	...	94-100
Smith, Hill & Co.	...	...	...	...	...	22
Southey, Robert, in Manchester	...	...	...	...	...	81
Story, Robert	...	...	...	...	...	79
Strangeways Bowling Green	...	...	...	...	...	171
Strangeways Hall and Park	...	...	...	...	...	160
Strangeways Park Gates	...	...	...	...	...	168
Strangeways Toll Bar	...	...	...	...	...	173
Strangeways Unitarian Free Church	...	...	...	...	...	158
Strangeways Walk	...	...	...	...	...	170
Strangwais, Thomas de	...	...	...	...	...	161
Strangwais, William de	...	...	...	...	...	162
Strangways, John	...	...	...	...	...	163
Strangways, William...	...	...	...	...	...	163
Strangways, Thomas...	...	...	...	...	...	163

Strangweys, John	...	...	...	...	...	163
Strangweys, Thomas	...	...	...	...	...	163
Stukeley, William, in Manchester in 1725	...	...	...	...	...	11
"Sun Inn, The"	...	...	...	...	...	73
Swain, Charles	...	...	...	...	...	80
Swinton Industrial Schools, Founded	...	...	...	...	...	156
Tanner's Bridge	...	...	...	...	...	27
Tavare, Charles	...	...	...	...	...	80
Taylor, William, the murderer	...	...	...	...	...	173
<i>The Festive Wreath</i>	...	...	...	...	...	74
"The Literary Twelve"	...	...	...	...	...	70
Throwing at Cocks on Shrove Tuesday	...	...	...	...	...	46
Timperley, C. H.	...	...	...	...	...	20
Tinker's Gardens	...	...	...	...	...	61
Toad Lane, Origin of name	...	...	...	...	...	87
Toad Lane	...	...	...	...	...	87
Travelling by Road before the Railway	...	...	...	...	...	149
"Veal Pie House"	...	...	...	...	...	172
Victoria Station built...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Volunteer Reviews on Kersal Moor	...	...	...	...	...	213
Walker's Croft	...	...	...	...	...	146
Walker's Croft, Origin of name	...	...	...	...	...	146
Walker's Croft Burial Ground	...	...	...	...	...	147
Warre, John de la, Lord of the Manor	...	...	...	...	...	32
Warre, Thomas de la, Lord of the Manor	...	...	...	...	...	32
Ward, Andrew...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Wilson, Alexander	...	...	...	...	...	58
Wilson, Michael	...	...	...	...	...	59
Wilson, Samuel	...	...	...	...	...	60
Wilson, Thomas	...	...	...	...	...	59
<i>Wilson's, Songs of the</i>	...	...	...	...	...	58
Wilson's Song on Kersal Moor Races	...	...	...	...	...	210
Workhouse in Cumberland Street	...	...	...	...	...	154
Workhouse in New Bridge Street	...	...	...	...	...	154
Workhouse in 1582	...	...	...	...	...	153
Yates's Folly	...	...	...	...	...	187
Yates, William...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Zoological Gardens, Broughton	...	...	...	...	...	190





## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

- ABBOTT, J. H. Esq., Stafford House, Heaton Mersey.  
 ABBOTT, ROBERT, Esq., 51 Belgrave Road, New Moston.  
 ALEXANDER, R. MILLAR, Esq., 45 Leyton Road, Handsworth,  
 Birmingham.  
 ALLEN, MRS. CHARLES R., Egerton Lodge, Fallowfield.  
 ALLEN, C. R. Esq., 86 Cross Street.  
 ANDERSON, G. H. Esq., St. Moritz, Eccles.  
 ANDERSON, JAMES, Esq., 259 Monton Road, Monton.  
 ANDREW, COLONEL JAMES, J.P., Ellesmere Park, Eccles.  
 ANDREWS, R. Esq., 50 Byrom Street, Deansgate, Manchester.  
 ANDREW, W. Esq., 285 Waterloo Road, Manchester.  
 ANGELL, DR. JOHN, F.C.S., F.I.C., Derby Road, Withington.  
 APPLETON, W. Esq., Granby Row File Works, Manchester.  
 ARCHER, MAJOR E. G., Holly Mount, Heaton Chapel.  
 ARGYLE, W. E. Esq., Egerton Park, Worsley.  
 ARRANDALE, M. Esq., 48 Plymouth Grove, Manchester.  
 ASHTON, J. M. Esq., Glen Villa, Stanley Road, Whalley Range.  
 ASPINWALL, S. J. Esq., Blair Atholl, Macclesfield.  
  
 BAGNALL, J. Esq., Hazelwood, Solihull.  
 BAILEY, S. C. Esq., 12 Farndon Avenue, Harpurhey.  
 BAILEY, SIR W. H. Knt., Sale Old Hall.  
 BALDWIN, JOHN, Esq., Senr., 80 Park Side Terrace, Heaton  
 Park.  
 BAMFORTH, LEES, Esq., 183 Hyde Road, Gorton (two copies).  
 BAND, CHARLES, Esq., 31 Daresbury Street, Cheetham Hill.  
 BARBER, E. H. Esq., Alvanley, Westgate, Urmston.  
 BARKER, JAMES, Esq., Ashenhurst, Todmorden.  
 BARKER, T. G. Esq., 60 Gilda Brook Road, Eccles.  
 BARTON, EDWIN, Esq., Beechwood, Heaton Moor.  
 BATES, J. E. Esq., 3 Harcourt Road, Ashton-on-Mersey.  
 BAYLEY, F. S., Esq. 4 Willow Bank, Fallowfield.  
 BEARD, J. H. Esq., 4 Queen's Terrace, Clarence Road, Man-  
 chester.  
 BEE, HERBERT, Esq., 81 Cromwell Road, Levenshulme.  
 BEE, WALTER, Esq., 33 Marshall Road, Levenshulme.  
 BELL, G. H. Esq., 16 Circular Road, Withington.

- BELL, W. Esq., 19 January Street, Upper Brook Street, Manchester.
- BINDLOSS, J. K. Esq., Annesdale, Eccles.
- BLAKE, A. H. Esq., 3 Buckingham Road, Prestwich.
- BLAND, MISS LYDIA, 11 Tabot Terrace, Lytham (three copies).
- BLAYSHAY, MISS J. J., 38 Mayfield Road, Whalley Range (four copies).
- BLEACKLEY, J. Esq., Vailima, Grassendale Park, Liverpool.
- BLYTON, T. B. Esq., 76 Gordon Street, Lower Broughton.
- BLEARS, A. Esq., Willow Bank, Folly Lane, Swinton.
- BOULAYE, W. H. G. Esq., 10 Dover Street, C-on-M., Manchester.
- BOWER, MISS M., 9 Norfolk Villas, Howard Avenue North, Heaton Chapel.
- BOWES, DR., 293 Oldham Road, Failsworth.
- BRETHERTON, A. Esq., Gas Office, Bloom Street, Salford.
- BRIDGE, John, Esq., 5 Cambridge Street, Heaton Chapel.
- BRIGHOUSE, J. S. Esq., J.P., Ellesmere Avenue, Eccles (two copies).
- BRIGGS, EDWARD, Esq., 16 Piccadilly, Manchester.
- BROADBENT, H. A. Esq., Heathville, Cheadle Hulme.
- BROADBENT, H. J. Esq., Broad Oak Road, Worsley (two copies).
- BROCKLEHURST, J. H. Esq., King's Drive, Heaton Moor.
- BROMLEY, J. Esq., Oversley, West Road, Bowdon.
- BROOKS, S. H. Esq., J.P., Slade House, Levenshulme (four copies).
- BROWN, MISS A., 59 Barfield Road, Pendleton.
- BROWN, W. Esq., J.P., The Laurels, Heaton Mersey (two copies).
- BROWNE, WALTER T. Esq., Chetham's Library, Manchester.
- BROADHEAD, COUNCILLOR W. H., Crown Theatre, Eccles (three copies).
- BUCKLEY, W. H. Esq., J.P., Birch Hill, Rusholme.
- BURGON, COUNCILLOR A., 79 Sackville Street, Manchester (two copies).
- CAMINADA, COUNCILLOR J., 2 Denmark Road, C-on-M.
- CANNAN, J. S. Esq., Williams Deacon's Bank, Mosley Street, Manchester.
- CAPPER, W. BENTLY, Esq., 21 Oxford Road, Manchester.
- CARRITTE, W., Esq., 16 John Dalton Street, Manchester.
- CARRODUS, T. Esq., 5 Chadwick Road, Eccles.
- CARTER, W. T. Esq., 53 Upper Brook Street, C-on-M.
- CHADWICK, J. Esq., 73 Spring Vale, Middleton.
- CHAMP, HENRY, Esq., Lymm, Cheshire.
- CHANTLER, COUNCILLOR J. DALE, J.P., 274 Dickenson Road, Rusholme.
- CHAPMAN, MRS. J. T., 16 Alexandra Road, South Manchester.
- CHARLTON, W. Esq., J.P., Burnage House, Levenshulme.

- 
- CHARTER, JOHN, Esq., Queen's Hotel, Alderley Edge.  
 CLARKE, JOHN, Esq., 72 Clifton Road, Southport.  
 CLAYTON, JAMES, Esq., Clifton Road, Prestwich.  
 COLLINSON, John F., Esq., Howcaster, Cheetham Hill.  
 COOKE, T., Esq., Woodleigh Street, Blackley.  
 COOPER, MRS. M. A., 22 January Street, C.-on-M.  
 COUNSEL, J. H., Esq., 215 Regent Road, Salford.  
 COWEN, J. R. Esq., 2 Green Street, Ardwick Green North,  
 Manchester.  
 COX, G. F. Esq., 10 Albert Street, Manchester.  
 CRITCHLEY, MESSRS. J. & Co., 52 Newton Street, Piccadilly,  
 Manchester (two copies).  
 CROFTON, H. T. Esq., 4 Durwood House, Kensington Court,  
 London.  
 CROFTON, W. M. Esq., South View, Monton, Eccles.  
 CROSSLEY, G. Esq., 117 Hulton Street, Moss Lane West, C.-on-M.  
  
 DARBYSHIRE, H. Esq., 91 Cromwell Avenue, Whalley Range.  
 DARRAH, C. Esq., Hawthornden, Heaton Mersey (four copies).  
 DARRAH, GERALD, Esq., Miller Street, Manchester.  
 DAVIES, JOHN, Esq., Heald Place, Rusholme.  
 DEANS, J. H. Esq., Grove House, Eccles.  
 DENBY, MRS. C. H., Heaton House, Heaton Park.  
 DICKENS, F. J. Esq., Green Hill, Worsley.  
 DOWBIGGIN, J. M. Esq., Public Library, Lancaster.  
 DUCKWORTH, C. Esq., 43 George Street, Manchester.  
 DUKE, HENRY, Esq., Gosforth, Northumberland.  
 DUTHIE, OGILVIE, Esq., Education Offices, Salford.  
 DUTTON, T. Esq., Bamford Villa, Dickenson Road, Rusholme.  
  
 EDWARDS, R. Esq., 187 Claremont Road, Moss Side.  
 EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Eccles Co-operative Society (seven  
 copies).  
 ELLISON, F. Esq., 6 Chester Square, Ashton-under-Lyne.  
 ELLIS, W. Esq., 12 Lime Grove, Longsight.  
 ENTWISTLE, H. A. Esq., 53 Seedley Park Road, Pendleton.  
 ESCOTT, S. W. Esq., 16 Swayfield Avenue, Longsight.  
 EVANS, C. T. Esq., Granville Road, Pendleton.  
  
 FOGG, SAMPSON, Esq., 70 Major Street, Manchester.  
 FORTH, G. Esq., 100 Gorton Road, Reddish.  
 FOX, REV. A. W., M A., Fielden Hotel, Todmorden.  
 FOXCROFT, T. W. Esq., J.P., 9 Hessle Terrace, Hyde Park, Leeds.  
  
 GARLICK, W. Esq., 5 Mirfield Drive, Monton.  
 GIBBONS, B. Esq., Rivershill, Talbot Road, Oxtan, Birkenhead.  
 GRADISKY, COUNCILLOR C. J. H., School Road, Didsbury.

- GRANGE, MISS E., Molyneaux Street, Stockport Road, Manchester.
- GREEN, MRS., 7 Burton Street, Temple Street, Manchester.
- GRAINGER, H. B. Esq., Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.A.
- GRESHAM, JAMES, Esq., J.P., Oak Bank, Woodheys Park, Ashton-on-Mersey (two copies).
- GRIFFIN, W. Esq., Chester Road, Cornbrook, Manchester.
- GRIME, COUNCILLOR J., J.P., Tideswell, Whitelaw Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
- GRINDROD, R. Esq., Shackliffe Green, Moston Lane, Fails-worth.
- HALL, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. E. R., The Bank, Atherton.
- HALL, O. O. Esq., 4 Albert Road, Eccles.
- HARPER, W. Esq., 12 North Road, Longsight.
- HARRIS, ARTHUR, Esq., The Dingle, Worsley.
- HARRIS, W. Esq., Monton Green, Eccles.
- HARRIS, MRS. E., 19 Market Street, Droylsden.
- HARRISON, E. Esq., Rocky Lane, Monton.
- HARRISON, J. H. Esq., St. Arnold's, Worsley.
- HARRISON, R. L., Esq., Ringlow House, Moorside.
- HARROP, C. Esq., 5 Victoria Grove, Heaton Chapel.
- HARROP, COUNCILLOR J., Heaton Lodge, Heaton Mersey.
- HART, H. Esq., Grange Drive, Monton, Eccles.
- HASSALL, COUNCILLOR T., J.P., Lyme Cottage, Wellington Road, Eccles.
- HAWORTH, J. B. Esq., The Hollies, Holmes Chapel.
- HEALEY, MRS. E., Pine Grove, Monton, Eccles.
- HEAP, GEO. Esq., Public Heath Office, Manchester.
- HEATHCOTE, COUNCILLOR G., West View, Dukinfield.
- HIGENBOTHAM, G. Esq., Allandale, Knutsford.
- HIGGIN, C. N. Esq., Monton Lodge, Monton, Eccles.
- HILL, D. J. Esq., 5 Portland Terrace, Fairfax Road, Prestwich.
- HILL, JAMES, Esq., Poplar Road, Monton, Eccles.
- HILL, Joseph, Esq., 563 Collyhurst Road, Harpurhey, Manchester (four copies).
- HILL, J. S. Esq., 25 Hall Road, Crumpsall.
- HILTON, J. Esq., 39 Bar Gap Road, Oldham (three copies).
- HILTON, R. F. Esq., 13 Sunny Road, Southport.
- HINDLEY, R. T. Esq., 59 Collingwood Avenue, Muswell Hill, London.
- HIRST, ALLEN, Esq., 157 Lightbowne Road, Moston.
- HOLDEN, FRANK, Esq., 5 St. James' Square, Manchester.
- HOLLAND, R. Esq., 330 Great Cheetham Street, Manchester.
- HOLLINS, J. W. Esq., 170 Northenden Road, Gatley.
- HOLT, ALDERMAN EDWARD, J.P., Woodthorpe, Bury Old Road, Manchester.
- HOOLEY, S. Esq., Cromwell Road, Patricroft.

HORSEY, W. T. Esq., Westfield, The Cliff, Manchester.  
HOWARTH, H. C. Esq., Sunny Side, New Moston.  
HUGHES, E. Griffiths Esq., 17 Deansgate, Manchester.  
HYDE, W. H. Esq., 40 Folly Lane, Swinton.

IRVING, W. H. Esq., Alexandra Villa, Monton.

JACKSON, H. Esq., 8 Oak Bank Avenue, Clough Side, Blackley.  
JACKSON, J. Esq., 226 Monton Road, Monton.  
JACKSON, S. Esq., 104 Hall Street, Harpurhey.  
JACKSON, S. Esq., 5 Boden Street, Tipping Street, Manchester.  
JEANS, T. Esq., 1 Broad Street, Pendleton.  
JOHNSON, H. Esq., 27 Plato Street, Oldham.  
JOHNSON, COUNCILLOR J., Westlands, Plymouth Grove, Manchester.  
JOHNSON, T. Esq., J.P., Angel Meadow, Manchester (two copies).  
JONES, A. M. Esq., Hazelwood, Rocky Lane, Monton.  
JONES, W. H. Esq., Darley Villa, Heaton Chapel.  
JORDAN, Miss, Astley House, Ashton-on-Mersey (two copies).

KAY, F. B. Esq., 31 Aked Street, Stockport Road, Manchester.  
KELLY, THE MISSES, Old Trafford Terrace, Old Trafford (two copies).

KERFOOT, T. Esq., J.P., Bardsley Vale, Ashton-under-Lyne (two copies).

KENT, W. W. Esq., 70 Deansgate, Manchester.

KERSHAW, MRS., 291 Waterloo Road, Manchester.

KERSHAW, JAMES, Esq., Holly House, Bury Old Road, Manchester.

KILGOUR, F. S. Esq., 50 Mayfield Road, Whalley Range.

KINCH, W. S. Esq., The Limes, Wigan.

KIRKBY, W. Esq., F.C.S., Winster House, Heaton Chapel.

KIRKHAM, A. R., Esq., 50 Sewerby Street, Moss Side.

KNOTT, T. S. Esq., 14 Seymour Street, Denton.

KUEZYNSKI, O. S. Esq., 44 Thomson Street, Ardwick.

KYLE, W. Esq., 68 Palmerston Street, Moss Side.

LAWSON, W., Esq., 97 Hyde Road, Ardwick.

LAWSON, R. Esq., Rostherne Cottage, Queen's Road, Urmston.

LEIGH, G. H. Esq., Moorfield, Swinton (two copies).

LEIGH, P. H. Esq., Brentwood, Worsley.

LEIGH, Miss A., Clovelly, Swinton, (two copies).

LEWIS, B. Esq., Park Terrace, Brunswick Street, West Gorton.

LEVER, J. Esq., Waverley, Park Lane, Harefield, Middlesex.

LIDDELL, P. J. Esq., Durham House, Monton Road, Eccles.

LOFT, W. G. Esq., 273 Regent Road, Salford.

LOMAS, JOHN, Esq., 79 Great Norbury Street, Hyde.

- LOUDON, J. Esq.  
LORD S. Esq., 5 Portland Street, Manchester (two copies).  
LOWE, W. Esq., 62 Craigie Lea, Patricroft.  
LUCAS, W. Esq., 25 Granby Row, Manchester (two copies).
- McCABE, ALDERMAN D., J.P., Green Mount, Queen's Park, Manchester.  
MACLURE, ALLAN F. Esq., 36 Brazennose Street, Manchester.  
McMURRAY, W. Esq., Dailly, Ayrshire.  
MALTBY, MRS. F. M., 8 Inglewood Grove, Dover Street, Manchester.  
MARLAND, A. Esq., 13 Wilson Street, Miles Platting.  
MANGNALL, ALFRED, Esq., Alan Road, Withington.  
MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARIES, per C. W. Sutton, Esq. (fifteen copies).  
MARCHANTSON, J. Esq., 48 Mayfield Road, Whalley Range.  
MARSHALL, G. W. Esq., 38 Barton Arcade, Manchester.  
MARSLAND, R. C. Esq., 26 Chandos Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.  
MARTIN, R. Esq., Acresfield Road, Pendleton.  
MATTHEWS, L. Esq., 95 Grosvenor Street, C.-on-M.  
MELLOR, T. Esq., 296 Moston Lane, Moston.  
MELLOR, W. Esq., Croughton House, Stretford.  
METCALF, J. Esq., 229 Oldfield Road, Salford.  
MILLAR, MRS. MURRAY, Franche, Malvern.  
MILNE, W. F. Esq., Narran, Monton Road, Eccles.  
MORGAN, MRS. W., Broad Oak House, Monton.  
MORLEY, T., Esq. Ascension Street, Lower Broughton.  
MORTIMER, J. Esq., 96 Lloyd Street, Greenheys.
- NANSON, W. E. Esq., Endcliffe, Stafford Road, Eccles.  
NAPPER, H. Esq., 107 New Lane, Winton.  
NEEDHAM, T. A. Esq., 7 Brazennose Street, Manchester.  
NEILD, E. Esq., Westminster Road, Eccles.  
NETTLETON, J. COATS Esq., 12 Rose Bank, Brinnington, Stockport.  
NEWBIGGING, T. Esq., Woodgarth, Knutsford.  
NEWBY, T. Esq., Lingerwood, Heaton Mersey.  
NEWTON, C. W. Esq., 43 Lever Street, Manchester.  
NICKSON, C. Esq., "Guardian Office," Altrincham.  
NICKSON, C. Esq., Gas Department, Town Hall, Manchester.  
NIXON, A. Esq., 14 Richmond Grove, Eccles.  
NOAR, C. P. Esq., St. Ann's Square, Manchester.  
NOBLE, H. D. Esq., 18 Monica Grove, Slade Lane, Levenshulme.  
NODAL, J. H. Esq., The Grange, Heaton Moor.  
NORBURY, R. A. Esq., West Leigh, Broad Oak Park, Worsley.  
O'DEA, J. Esq., St. Anne's School, Ancoats, Manchester.

OGDEN, J. N. Esq., Claremont, Heaton Chapel.  
 OLDHAM, H. H. Esq., Woodford Road, Bramhall.

PARKINSON, H. F. Esq., Bank House, Barton-on-Irwell.  
 PAYNE, GEO. Esq., Sorn Lea, Whalley Range (seven copies).  
 PERKINS, T. P. Esq., 49 Victoria Crescent, Eccles (two copies).  
 PIGOTT, J. Esq., West Gorton Medical Hall, West Gorton.  
 PLATT, B. W. Esq., 137 New Lane, Winton.  
 PRICE, G. Esq., Orrisdale, Folly Lane, Swinton.  
 PROVIS, R. S. Esq., Bramhall, Cheshire.

RAYNER, J. Esq., 9a Mount Street, Manchester.  
 REDFERN, B. A. Esq., 10 King Street, Harpurhey.  
 REYNOLDS, JOHN, Esq., Higher Joel Lane, Gee Cross.  
 REYNOLDS, J. H. Esq., M.Sc., Hill House, Cheadle-Hulme.  
 RHODES, E. Esq., 10 Alexandra Road, Patricroft.  
 RIDGWAY, J. H. Esq., Stanley Avenue, Eccles.  
 RIGBY, T. H. Esq., 9 Oxford Road, Birkdale, Southport.  
 RILEY, DR. S., Monton Green, Eccles.  
 ROADNIGHT, W. Esq., Junr., 251 Monton Road, Monton.  
 ROBERTS, T. H. Esq., 51 Heaton Road, Withington.  
 ROBINSON, W. H. Esq., Monton Holme, Eccles (two copies).  
 ROCHE, MRS., 28 Waterloo Road, Manchester.  
 ROTHWELL, H. Esq., Church Lane, Moston.  
 ROWBOTHAM, G. H. Esq., 11 Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.  
 ROWLEY, H. S. Esq., 13 Monton Green, Monton.

SASSEN, H. R. Esq., Victoria Crescent, Eccles.  
 SCARRY, E. Esq., Stanley Avenue, Eccles.  
 SCHOFIELD, S. Esq., Auburn Bank, New Moston.  
 SHAW, J. Esq., 33 Johnson Street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester.  
 SHANN, SIR T. T. Knt., Clifton Road, Heaton Moor.  
 SHAW, GILES, Esq. 4 Ash Street, Southport.  
 SIMPSON, H. DERWENT, Esq., 18 St. Ann's Square, Manchester.  
 SIMPSON, W. Esq., Apsley Villa, Church Road, Urmston.  
 SIDLEY, DR. G., Wellington Road, Eccles.  
 SMEDLEY, J. Esq., Heaton Moor Road, Heaton Moor.  
 SMITH, T. J. Esq., 330 Moorside Road, Swinton.  
 SMITH, LUKE Esq., 42 Monton Road, Eccles.  
 SOUTHERN, SIR J. W. Knt., Beechwood, Marple.  
 SPARKE, A. Esq., F.R.S.L., Bolton Subscription Library, Bolton  
 (two copies).  
 STROEGER, J. D. Esq. 68, Barton Arcade, Manchester.  
 STAFFORD, T. W. Esq., Beech Mount, North Road, Clayton.  
 STANLEY, J. E. Esq., 76 Exeter Street, Ardwick.  
 STAVELEY, F. W. Esq., 4 Aytoun Street, Manchester.  
 STONEY, J. Esq., Glen Albyn, Queen's Road, Urmston.

- SUMNER, H. Esq., Hurstlea, Wigan.  
SWANN, J. H. Esq. 81 Cleveland Road, Higher Crumpsall.
- TATTERSALL, J. W. Esq., 38 Fountain Street, Manchester.  
THACKRAY, E. Esq., Ashton Lane, Ashton-on-Mersey.  
THOMPSON, ALDERMAN JOSEPH, J.P., Riversdale, Wilmslow.  
THORBURN, R. Esq., Hawksmoor, Hesketh Park, Southport.  
THORPE, H. Esq., Dining Room Committee, L. & Y. Rail. Co.,  
Newton Heath.  
THOMAS, MESSRS. G. & Co., Parsonage Lane, Manchester (two  
copies).  
TOMLINSON, F. Esq., Abbey Grove, Eccles.  
TONG, A. Esq., Pole Lane, Failsworth.  
TOWNEND, C. Esq., 14 Moss Street, Rochdale.  
TRESTON, J. Esq., Worsley Road, Winton.  
TREVOR, ALDERMAN W., J.P., Heathfield, Newton Heath, Man-  
chester.  
TYSON, H. Esq., Monton School, Monton.
- WALLWORK, S. Esq., The Laurels, Longley Road, Worsley.  
WALMSLEY, J. Esq., The Grammar School, Eccles.  
WALSH, J. Esq., 18 Lambeth Street, Cheetham, Manchester.  
WALTON, F. Esq., 21 Bruton Street, Moss Side, Manchester.  
WARBURTON, F. Esq., 25 Circular Road, New Moston.  
WARBURTON, H. Esq., West Bank, Northenden Road, Sale.  
WARBURTON, T. A. Esq., Circular Road, New Moston.  
WATSON, DR. HENRY, 30 Chapel Street, Salford.  
WATTS, JAMES, Esq., Abney Hall, Cheadle.  
WEBB, ALFRED, Esq., 6 Glenfyne Road, Pendleton.  
WESTLEY, REV. W. A., B.A., 251 Apsley Terrace, Seedley.  
WHITEHEAD, JAS. Esq., Whitefield, Heaton Norris.  
WILD, JOHN, Esq., 307 Oxford Road, Manchester.  
WILKINSON, W. Esq., The Limes, Victoria Park, Manchester  
(two copies).  
WILKINSON, A. Esq., 8 Westbourne Grove, Harpurhey.  
WILLIAMS, E. A. Esq., Williams Deacon's Bank, Mosley Street,  
Manchester (two copies).  
WILLIAMS, J. Esq., Ophir, Albert Road, Hale.  
WILLIAMS, R. Esq., Chatsworth House, Gorton (six copies).  
WILLIAMS, S. N. Esq., 75 Shakespeare Street, Manchester.  
WILSON, W. G. Esq., 6 Poplar Road, Monton.  
WINDER, J. E. Esq., 6 Pall Mall, Manchester.  
WINSTANLEY, J. Esq., 36 Lincroft Street, Moss Side, Manchester.  
WOOD, C. H. Esq., Melrose, Church Road, Flixton.  
WOODHEAD, — Esq., Davyhulme.  
WRIGHT, H. Esq. 76 Mornington Street, C-on-M.  
WRIGHT, F. FRANK, 33 Whitelow Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

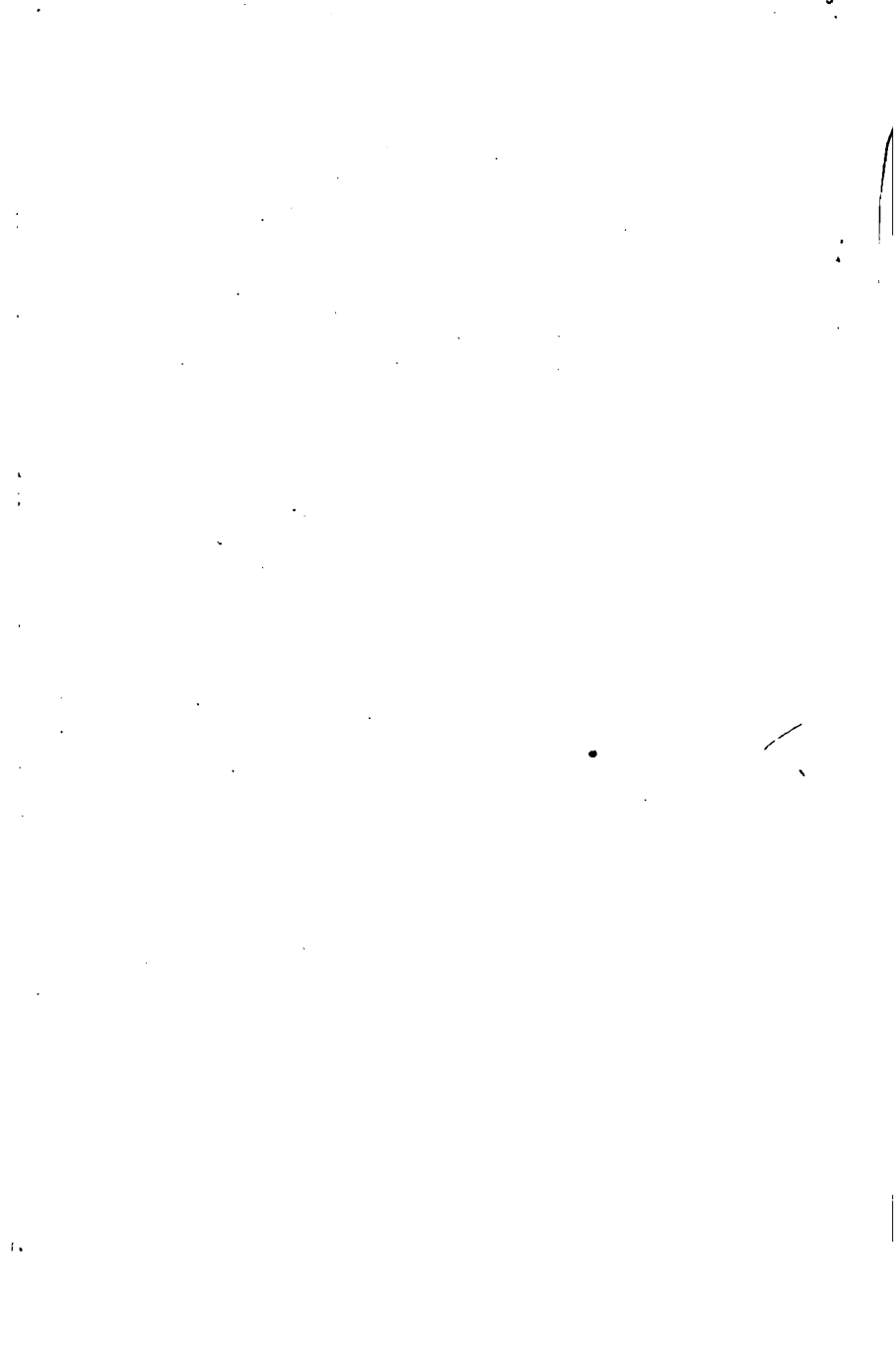


YARWOOD, W. H. Esq., 373 Oldham Road, Manchester (three copies).  
YEARNSHAW, DR. H., 305 Eccles New Road, Weaste.  
YEARNSHAW, W. Esq., 85 Claremont Road, Pendleton.  
YOUNG, G. Esq., 31 Gorton Road, Lower Openshaw.  
YOUNG, W. H. Esq., 33 York Street, Manchester.  
YOUNG, W. P. Esq., Fern Villas, Trafford Road, Eccles (two copies).

---

Names received too late for inclusion in the above list :—  
DERBYSHIRE, J. Esq., Victoria Baths, High Street, C.-on-M.  
PLANT, MISS, 13 Market Street, Droylsden.





**THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT**

**This book is under no circumstances to be  
taken from the Building**

[illegible]



